

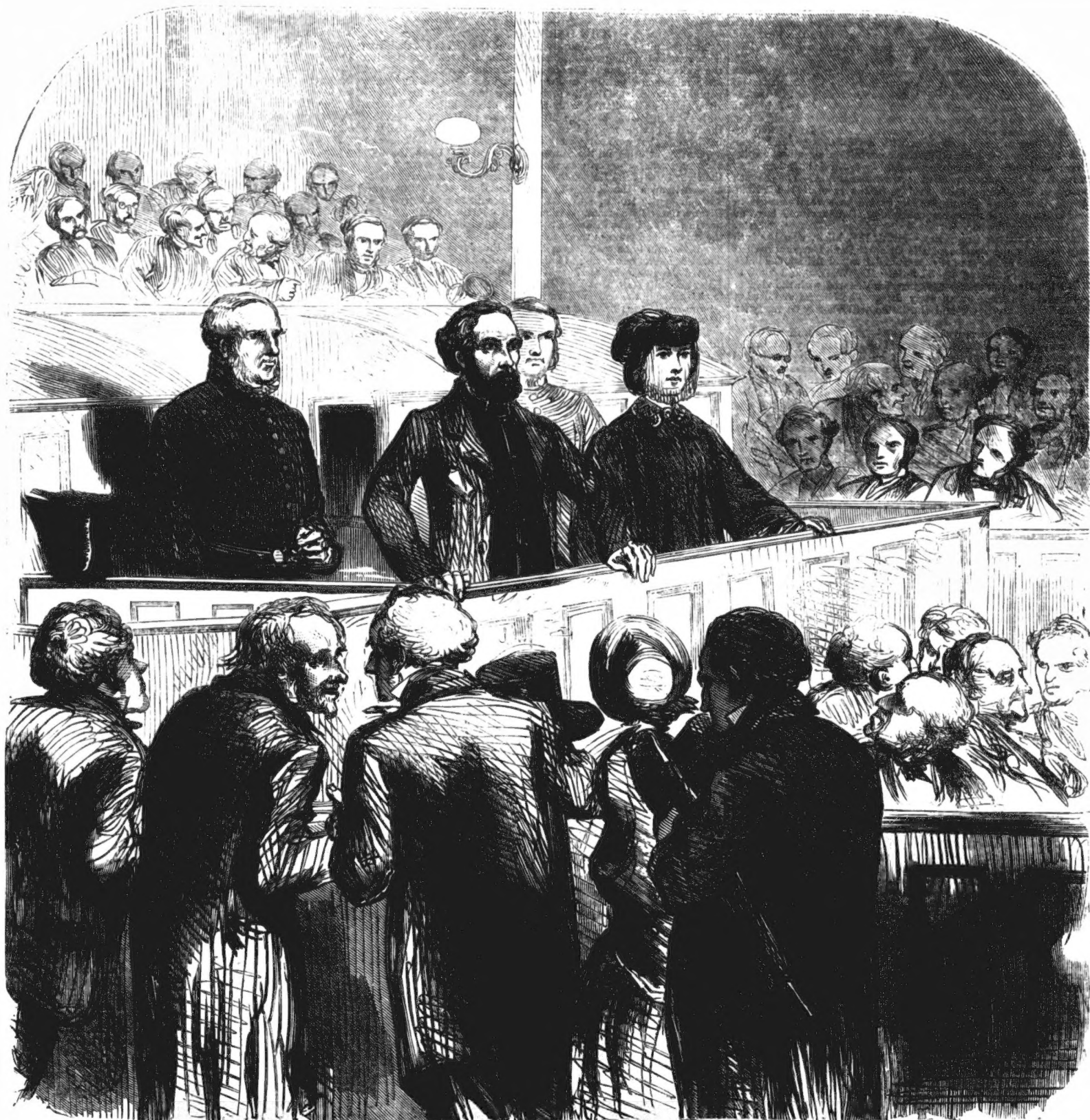
THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1862.

ONE PENNY



THE MANCHESTER TRAGEDY.—EXAMINATION OF TAYLOR AND HIS WIFE AT THE MANCHESTER POLICE-COURT. (See page 533.)

Notes of the Week.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—Her Majesty entered her forty-on Saturday last, having been born at Kensington on the 24th of May, 1819. In honour of the occasion the bells in the metropolitan steeples rang forth joyous peals at intervals throughout the day. The Government offices were closed, but the usual ministerial and official banquets were, however, dispensed with.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS ALICE.—We believe that the marriage of the Princess Alice to Prince Louis of Hesse has been postponed from the 9th of June to the 20th of the same month, probably with the hope that the King of the Belgians may be sufficiently recovered to be present at the ceremony.

A NEW TRAMWAY PROJECT.—Application has been made, on behalf of the proprietor of a novel style of tram or street railway, to the Marylebone Council, for permission to lay down as an experiment 100 yards in Oxford-street or some other public thoroughfare. The principle was said to be in operation in Salford, near Manchester, and obviated all the objections of Mr. Train's tramway, no trams being above the surface, and the carriages kept steady by a lifting centre wheel, running in a centre groove. On the motion of Mr. Hodges, a committee was appointed to consider the application and report thereon.

IRON-PLATE COMMITTEE.—The report of the Iron-plate Committee is now in the hands of the Duke of Somerset, but it has been decided that, for the present, it shall be kept secret.

UNDER SECRETARY FOR WAR.—We believe it is likely that the Under Secretaryship of State for War, vacant by the lamented death of Sir Benjamin Hawes, will not be filled up, but that the office of Assistant Under Secretary, which lapsed upon the demise of Mr. Godley, will be revived.

PRICE OF BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 8½d. of household ditto, 7d. to 7½d. Some bakers are selling from 6d. to 6½d. per 4lb. loaf, weighed on delivery.

THE DELHI PRIZE MONEY.—Six lacs of the Delhi prize money have been disbursed to meet the claims of India, and it is calculated that four more lacs will meet those of England. Ten lacs are not a third of the whole booty captured, and at this rate the next and final share declared will be worth two hundred rupees. This would give a captain 2,400 rupees.

THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—According to information which we receive from a good channel we can give the important fact to our readers that next month will witness an assembly of Plenipotentiaries of different German States at Vienna, in order to deliberate on the project of a reform of the Confederation. The objects of their deliberations will be, first, the convocation of delegates of the German Constitutional Chambers, with a view to a general legislation for Germany; secondly, the composition of an executive power; and, thirdly, a Supreme Federal Court of Arbitration.

THE LAW RELATING TO FRENCH NEWSPAPERS.—The French Council of State decided on Friday, in the case of the *France Libérale*, that where permission is granted to several persons to found a journal, and one subsequently dies, the survivors have no right to carry on the paper.

BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Mr. J. D. Walker, who has been many years in the service of the Oriental Bank Corporation, has been appointed manager of the Chartered Bank of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island at Victoria. Mr. Walker and staff of officials left England on the 24th inst. for Victoria, with the view of commencing business at an early date. The charter and deed of settlement are arranged, and the latter will shortly be ready for signature.

NEW UNIFORM FOR THE CITY POLICE.—The new uniform which has been adopted for this force was put on on Saturday last for the first time, and is a great improvement on the old body-coat. It is a single-breasted frock-coat, with the same sort of brass buttons as formerly worn, bearing the civic shield. The embroidered figures and shield have been removed from the collar of the constables, and replaced by brass ones. The sergeants have brass figures on their collars, but the shield is removed, and on each arm are three yellow stripes, surmounted by a shield of the same colour. The marks are very conspicuous in the streets, and very unpopular with the officers, as they can be seen at a great distance.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL TO THE PRINCE CONSORT.—The following gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of furthering in Paris the objects of the meeting for obtaining subscriptions to the national memorial to the Prince Consort, held at the house of the Society of Arts, Adelphi, London, on Thursday, April 10:—Lord Gray, of Gray, chairman; the Rev. H. J. Swale; Sir Joseph Olliffe, M.D.; R. O. Maughan, Esq.; Thomas Fraser Duff, Esq., hon. sec. and treasurer.

CHURCH BUILDING ACTS, &c.—A return, issued on Saturday, of districts assigned to churches under the provisions of the Church Building Acts, and the Parish of Manchester Division Act (1859), from the termination of the Church Building Commission, on the 31st December, 1856, to 31st October, 1861, presents the following figures:—Consolidated chapels, 38; district chapels, 162; particular districts, 16; districts under the Parish of Manchester Division Act, 1859, 19—together 235.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—On Monday Lord Brougham directed attention to an omission from the recent treaty with the United States of America for the suppression of the slave trade, by which the limits of the right of search were extended to Porto Rico, a coast peculiarly well adapted for the operation of slavers.—Earl Russell said that if it were found necessary to include Porto Rico in the provisions of the treaty he was so confident in the sincerity of the Government of the United States that he had no doubt any suggestion to that effect would meet with attention.—The Earl of Clancarty moved for certain papers and correspondence relating to the use of the Scriptures in the national schools in Ireland.—After a few words from the Bishop of Killaloe and the Earl of Bandon, the motion was agreed to.—The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill was read a second time, and at the suggestion of Earl Grey it was arranged that the discussion should be taken on the order for going into committee.—The Peace Preservation (Ireland) Bill was passed through committee.—The Chancery Regulation (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.—Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—On Monday a new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for the borough of Shrewsbury in the room of Mr. Slaney, deceased.—Sir L. Palk gave notice that, upon the order for going into committee of supply, he should call attention to the recent destruction of cotton at New Orleans, and the effect it might have upon our manufactures in that article.—Sir H. W. Loughby also gave notice of a motion to the effect, that whatever policy might be adopted with reference to the Indian navy, the guarantees given to the officers by statute should be maintained.—In answer to Mr. Williams, Lord C. Paget stated that, as yet, no payment had been made to Captain Cowper Coles on account of his invention of the cupola shield; but it was intended to grant to him, in consideration of his surrendering to the Government the sole use of his invention, a sum of £5,000, and during the continuance of his patent a further sum of £100 for every shield or cupola made for the use of the public service, whether by the Admiralty or the War-office.—The order for reading the Education (Scotland) Bill was discharged, and the bill withdrawn.—The House then, after a short preliminary discussion, went into committee on the Highways Bill, and a read to the several clauses. Some new clauses were also added to the Bill, which was then reported, with amendments, to the House.—The Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill was again committed.

Foreign News.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* says that Lord Palmerston's estimate of the French army at 810,000 was exaggerated. The real numbers are—active force, 400,000; reserve, 200,000 men.

The Emperor having decided that, on account of the reduction of the effective of the French army, the corps of occupation in Rome shall be organised anew. General Goyon has been recalled to take service near the person of the Emperor, who has nominated him a senator in proof of his high satisfaction.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree raising M. Chasseloup-Laubert, General Goyon, and M. Ingres, to the rank of senators.

ITALY.

The *Official Gazette* repels the insinuations thrown out against the Government respecting its conduct in the late event at Brescia and Bergamo, and says:—"It is entirely false that the Government has in any way connived at the disturbances, or hesitated as to what measures to adopt. The Government will be ready to justify its proceedings before Parliament. In the meantime the public may rest assured that the judicial authorities will act with strict impartiality."

The Minister of War has thanked General Durando, commanding the second military department, for the conduct of the troops during the recent events. In allusion to the bitter words of Garibaldi, the Minister says that his later letters will cause the reproaches contained in the former ones to be forgotten.

SPAIN.

According to news received from Mexico, General Doblado had given a written engagement to sign a treaty, which had already been drawn up, for the payment of claims and expenses of the expedition to Mexico, and in which every satisfaction is guaranteed for the future in favour of Spain and England. It is stated that General Prim will be authorised to return to Mexico as ambassador from Spain. He will be instructed to present his credentials only to the constituted power, and not to President Juarez.

THE HERZEGOVINA.

Two assaults by Luca Vucelitch upon the forts of Zubzi have been repulsed with great loss, the powder and tools for mining the walls remaining in the hands of the Turks. The Montenegrins, after taking and burning a few houses in Niksic, attempted a general attack upon the town, but were driven back by the garrison and the inhabitants, with the loss of 424 killed. Upon the 18th Dervish Pacha, beat the Montenegrins at Douga. Next day the latter, having received considerable reinforcements, accepted battle anew, but were completely defeated, leaving several flags and a quantity of arms in the power of the Turks. Upon the 19th Hussien Pacha, who occupied without opposition the country upon the right bank of the Lim, threw a bridge across that river. He crossed it upon the 20th with seven battalions of infantry and 4,000 irregular troops, and attacked the village and convent of Berane, naturally a strong position recently fortified by the Montenegrins. The Turks dislodged the insurgents from their posts with the bayonet and pursued them for three hours. The Montenegrin loss is thought to be very large; that of the Turks is small. The Turkish force, numbering 14 battalions and 3,000 irregulars, entered Montenegrin territory in the neighbourhood of Spruz. Later accounts state that Dervish Pacha has fruitlessly attempted to pass through the defile of Douga. The contest on both sides was sanguinary. It is rumoured that the Turks lost some generals and staff officers.

The Paris papers publish a telegram from Ragusa dated 23rd inst., according to which the Turkish army, numbering 2,000 men, under the command of Muchir Abdi, had assembled at Podgorizza in Albania, and was about to invade the Montenegrin territory in pursuance of definite orders received from Constantinople. Four steamers on the Lake of Scutari were to support the movements of this army. The Montenegrins had re-entered their own territory.

SERVIA.

The Turks have taken two criminals by force from the Servian police. A gendarme was badly wounded in the scuffle. The popular excitement has been appeased by the authorities. The Turkish Pacha refuses to give the satisfaction demanded by the Servian authorities. The Servian Government has resolved not to give up the Turkish prisoners in future, but to punish them upon its own responsibility.

AMERICA.

NEW YORK, MAY 13.—General Wood, with 5,000 men, landed on the 10th at Willoughby Point, and marched on Norfolk. A legion of citizens met General Wood near Norfolk, and surrendered the city. No resistance was offered. The Confederate General Huger withdrew his force, which it is supposed was much reduced in numbers by reinforcing General Johnson.

The Confederates blew up the Merrimack on the 11th, the late reconnaissance of Federal vessels being in such force as to prove that the chance of successful contest was hopeless, and the Merrimack drew too much water to proceed up any of the rivers.

General McClellan's forces have advanced beyond New Kent Court House, within twenty-two miles of Richmond. The Confederates were still falling back, having destroyed the railway from Westpoint. The Confederate rear was three miles distant. The Confederate retreat is reported to be admirably accomplished, carrying their waggons and provisions in the daytime, and their troops by night, covering their retreat by a line of skirmishers stretched across the country, driving in their stragglers at the point of the bayonet. From the best information it is supposed that the Confederates will make a stand at Bottom's Bridge, fifteen miles from Richmond, the head waters of Chickahominy River.

Captain Davis officially reports from the Mississippi, above Fort Pillow, that eight Confederate iron-clad gunboats attacked the Federal flotilla, under Commander Foot. The action lasted one hour. Six Federal vessels were engaged; two Confederate gunboats were blown up and one sunk. The Confederates then retreated under the guns of the fort. One Federal vessel was injured.

Corroboratory accounts received state that immense quantities of cotton are being burned at Memphis, and most of the sugar and molasses are being thrown into the river.

A secession plot to hand the town over to Confederates has been discovered at Paducah, Kentucky. The conspirators have been arrested.

A large meeting of the Conservative members of Congress has been held at Washington, denouncing Abolitionists and Secessionists. A resolution was passed denouncing the confiscation measures.

General Butler's proclamation of martial law in New Orleans was to the following effect:—

"The violation of property or persons protected by the Federal army will be punished with death. All persons must treat the Federal flag with the utmost deference and respect, under penalty of severe punishment. The keepers of all public property, whether State, national, or Confederate, must make a return to General Butler's head-quarters. All shops and places of amusement are to be kept open in the accustomed manner, and service is to be held in the churches as in times of profound peace. The circulation of Confederate notes among the poorer classes will be permitted as long as inconsiderate persons will receive them. Federal

officers will be appointed to examine all editorial newspaper comments and correspondence before their publication will be allowed. All assemblages in the streets by day or by night are forbidden."

President Lincoln has issued a proclamation that the blockade of New Orleans, Beaufort, and Port Royal, shall cease from June 1, on the following conditions:—"Vessels clearing from foreign ports, destined for New Orleans, Beaufort, or Port Royal, must obtain licenses from American Consuls abroad, which will be granted upon satisfactory evidence that such vessels will convey no person, property, or information, contraband of war, either to or from the above ports. These licenses must be exhibited on arrival to the collectors at the above ports. When cleared outwards from the above ports, such vessels must have the collector's clearance, showing that the above conditions have not been violated. The violation of these conditions will involve the forfeiture and condemnation of vessel and cargo, and exclusion from the privilege of entering the United States during the war. In all other respects, the existing blockade remains in full force and effect, and is only relaxed in regard to the above ports."

At Norfolk the navy yard, dry dock, naval machinery, and all vessels were found to have been entirely destroyed by the Confederates. The Federal steamer Galena has proceeded up the James River and silenced the Confederate batteries at Day's Point. The Southern newspapers state that the Federal squadron had arrived off Fort Morgan to attack Mobile.

The Federal General Pope officially reports that the Confederates, 20,000 strong, advanced upon his brigade, stationed on the banks of a creek near Farmington, five miles north-west of Corinth. Pope's brigade held on for five hours, but finding that he could not sustain his troops without his whole force crossing the creek, which would have brought on a general engagement, Pope withdrew his forces. The Confederates did not cross the creek. The loss of the Federals was considerable; that of the Confederates is also reported to be large.

General Beauregard is still fortifying Corinth, in the neighbourhood of which the Confederates are reported to be in immense strength. Both belligerents continue preparations for an extensive battle.

The *Memphis Avalanche* of the 6th says that the mayor and aldermen of New Orleans have been sent to prison for refusing to take the oath of allegiance. The greatest distress for provisions prevailed in New Orleans. General Butler occupied the Saint Charles Hotel as his head-quarters. The general had sent a proclamation to the newspaper offices for publication, but they refused to print it. A Federal guard was sent to the newspaper offices, and Northern printers were procured, by whom the proclamation was set up and published, proclaiming martial law in New Orleans.

The House of Representatives has passed a Bill abolishing slavery in the territories of the United States by a majority of eighty-five to fifty.

NEW YORK, MAY 13.—The New York press thinks that the proclamation of Lincoln relaxing the blockade will end all idea of foreign intervention.

A portion of General Wool's forces has occupied Suffolk. It is reported that General Sigel will reinforce General Hallock. The *Baltimore American* says that relieved prisoners coming from Richmond on the 12th inst. report that they passed the Federal steamers Monitor and Naughtlet beyond City Point, steaming towards Richmond. The Galena was also following. The steamers Jamestown and Yorktown were at Rocketts, near Richmond.

Rumours were current in Baltimore of the capture of Richmond, but no confirmation has yet been received.

ALARMING FIRES IN LONDON.

On Sunday evening, between six and seven, a fire took place in the neighbourhood of Little Moorfields, behind Finsbury-pavement. The building was about 130 feet long, three stories high, and was adjoined on one side by the pickling warehouse of Messrs. Batty and Co., on the other side by Messrs. Chew's livery stables, whilst Mr. Smith's wine vaults stood between the whole of the buildings. The whole of the horses and carts belonging to Messrs. Pope, the tea dealers, were got out unhurt. There were about a dozen hand-engines of the brigade, and the two steam land engines by Shand and Mason on the spot, and having a good supply of water they were set to work. Mr. Borwick's premises are nearly destroyed; the roof of Mr. Batty's premises were severely injured by the heated water falling upon them.

On Sunday morning, at an early hour, another fire happened on the premises of Mr. G. Murrell, Nos. 8 and 9, Chapel-mews, Duke-street, Portland-place. When the discovery was made the fire was raging in the lofts over the livery stables. The escapes and engines were soon in attendance, and a good supply of water having been procured the firemen went to work, but they were unable to get the flames extinguished until a great amount of proper was destroyed. Mr. Murrell was insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Other fires also took place in Aldersgate-street and Oxford-street, near Park-lane, the same morning, but fortunately the damage done at each was trifling.

On Monday morning, at an early hour, a fire broke out in the premises belonging to Mr. R. Smith, licensed victualler and proprietor of the White Horse Tavern, situate No. 105, Long-acre, but the firemen managed to confine the fire to the basement. The loss will fall upon the Sun-office.

A fire, attended with great loss of property, happened in the premises belonging to Mr. A. March, an ostrich feather-dresser, carrying on business at No. 128, Cannon-street-road East. It was arrested in its progress just as it was attacking the premises of Mr. E. Bell, No. 126, and those of Mrs. E. Beaumont, No. 130, in the same street. The firemen were unable to get the flames extinguished until the premises of Mr. March were nearly destroyed and those of Mr. Bell and Mrs. Beaumont severely injured.

Another fire also took place in the premises of Mr. J. Bartlett, No. 12, South-street, Bethnal-green-road. Considerable damage was done. The sufferer was uninsured.

HYDROPHOBIA.—Some melancholy cases of hydrophobia have lately excited considerable alarm in France. The death of the lady of an eminent physician, under very sad circumstances, has been recorded in the *Gazette des Hôpitaux*, and various trials have been suggested from the reports made of their efficacy.

THE COURT MARTIAL ON VETERINARY SURGEON ANTHONY, 11TH HUSSARS.—This court-martial was resumed on Saturday morning. The prisoner handed in testimonials from Colonel Douglas and Colonel Peel, who were his former commanding officers, and then proceeded to address the court in his own behalf. It was consoling to him in his present position to think that the tribunal before which he stood, while blaming and censuring his acts, would, at the same time, feel indignant at the insults to which he had been subjected by Cornet Delacour, and which were the inciting cause of all that followed. He had said or done nothing to warrant the imputations which Cornet Delacour levelled at him. Cornet Delacour at mess, in the hearing of strangers, imputed to him that he entered a horse at the Bangor races under false pretences, and had won the race under those discreditable circumstances. This was the commencement of the transaction, and he submitted that direct provocation was then given to him. The prisoner referred to the evidence, which he thought sustained him, and concluded by commending his case to the favourable consideration of the court. Lieutenant Colonel Fraser, 11th Hussars, replied as prosecutor. The court was then cleared, and, some time afterwards, was declared adjourned. The decision will be given on a future day.

Home News.

THE SPECIAL EXHIBITION SERVICES.—On Sunday last there were services at several places in the metropolis especially designed for the use of persons visiting London in connection with the Exhibition. French services were held at the Royal Chapel, St. James's, and at the Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks, conducted by the Rev. M. le Pasteur E. de Pressense. At the Royal Chapel a German service was performed by the Rev. Dr. F. W. Krummacker, court preacher, Potsdam; and also a German service, at the Royal Military Chapel, by Pastor Hermann Schmettan. At Regent's-park Chapel a French service was conducted by the Rev. A. Marrault, pastor of the Free French Protestant Church at Pau. At Euston Chapel, Piccadilly, an Italian service was conducted by Signor Ferretti, the founder of the Free Protestant schools at Florence. At Trinity Chapel, Conduit-street, a service was conducted by the Rev. Pastor G. Beskow, from Stockholm. At Harrow-road Presbyterian Church there was a service by the Rev. J. Du Pontet. There were three special services at St. James's Hall, conducted by the Rev. J. C. Harrison, of Camden-town; the Rev. Newman Hall, of Surrey Chapel; and the Rev. A. C. Thomas. There was a large attendance at Westminster Abbey, there being a full choral service, with a sermon by the Bishop of St. Andrews. On the 11th of June there is to be a special service in the nave of the abbey, the lessons to be read and the sermon preached in French.

INSPECTION OF THE METROPOLITAN UNDERGROUND RAILWAY BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AND FRIENDS.—On Saturday last, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and his lady, accompanied by about twenty of the nobility, including several peers, attended at the Paddington Station of the Metropolitan Underground Railway, for the purpose of inspecting the line. Two trucks, lined with baize, with cushioned seats, were provided for the accommodation of the visitors, who took their positions about twelve o'clock. The trucks were drawn along the rails by horses. On arriving at Euston-square, the visitors were received by Mr. Jay (contractor), Mr. Cordell (chief manager), Mr. Fowler (engineer in chief), and Mr. Johnson (resident engineer). At this point the permanent way is laid down, and the sleepers are fish-jointed. They then proceeded to King's-cross, where they inspected the station, which is now rapidly progressing towards completion. The visit was then continued under the Fleet-ditch at Frederick-street, and from thence to the station at Victoria-street. From this terminus the party returned to the King's-cross station, where their carriages were waiting to receive them.

LIFE PRESERVED BY A WATCH.—At a meeting of the East Riding Militia, a day or two ago, at Westwood, Beverley, one of the spectators of their evolutions had a marvellous escape from death. A private named Harrington neglected, after loading his rifle, to remove his ramrod, and on the firearm being discharged, the rod was shot away and struck a man named Bartle. Fortunately the end of the rod came in contact with a double-cased silver watch Bartle had in his waistcoat pocket. The watch was shattered to atoms, but to the resistance it offered its owner was indebted for the safety of his life, as from the force with which the rod struck him there is no doubt it would have penetrated his body had not the watch warded it off. The rod when picked up was found to have been bent into a zigzag form by the force of the collision. Bartle did not suffer beyond feeling an acute pain in the side for a short period.

THE JAPANESE MISSION.—On Monday morning the Japanese Ambassadors, accompanied by Mr. Macdonald and about six or eight of the principal officers in their suite, left London for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, starting from King's-cross station and travelling as far as York by the Great Northern railway. The principal object of their visit to Northumberland is to see a coal-mine in full operation. It is said their own country, among other mineral products, contains coal, but that the people know little or nothing of the proper modes of working and rendering it available for use. Hence the trip of the Ambassadors to Newcastle. They will return to London by way of Birmingham, making a short stay in the metropolis of the Midlands to see some of the principal objects of interest there, and then to the north is more hurried than they could have wished; but, expecting, as they do, almost daily here the arrival of Mr. Iwakura, the English Minister in Japan (accompanied by a high official and personage from their own country, bearing despatches), they are anxious to lose no time in returning to London, consistently with the desire to witness all that is calculated to interest them in the three great towns which they have elected to visit. Arrangements have been made by the authorities at the Foreign-office for affording them a sight of the great spectacle on Epsom Downs on the Derby-day. They will travel by road in two open carriages, each drawn by four horses, with a couple of postillions, and preparations have been made for their proper reception and entertainment at the grand stand.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN SHOREDITCH.—On Wednesday evening, between five and six o'clock, a terrible explosion took place, attended with great loss of property, and serious injury to several persons.

It appears that, for some time past, men have been employed constructing the main drainage sewer, in Church-street; and between the corner of Brick-lane and Club-row, in the same street, the horse pavement had been pulled up, and the heavy stones taken therefrom were piled upon the footpath and the edge of the carriage roadway. Immediately under those portions of the footpath and roadway were the extensive mains used for supplying bye-streets and shops with gas, whilst a little further on was a powerful steam-engine used for drawing up the earth and lowering bricks as the sewer beneath was being excavated. Owing to the weight of the superincumbent mass of stones on the pavement they fell through, and, coming in contact with the immense length of piping, it snapped at one of the joints, and then the gas rushed out with a noise resembling a perfect hurricane. The vapour then flew through the open ground along the sewer, until it reached the furnace of the engine. A number of men in the employ of the contractor, working in the cutting, were instantly prostrated, and they were all more or less injured. A female named Jane Smith, as she was passing along the pavement, was knocked down, and her clothing set on fire. The poor creature exhibited a complete burning mass. The house of Mr. J. Hayes, boot and shoe maker, No. 151, Church-street, was blown to the ground as if struck by a shell. The debris falling upon the poor woman, she was obliged to remain in the midst of the flaming mass until extricated by the firemen and others. She was then found to be so extensively burned as to necessitate her removal to the London Hospital, where she expired shortly after admission. The gas having entered several other houses, it became ignited, and then a fearful scene of disaster occurred. The houses from 146 to 155, making nine houses, had their fronts blown in, and the furniture extensively broken. The house belonging to Mr. J. E. Manning, haberdasher, No. 154, Church-street, was nearly riddled by the force of the explosion. The stock in trade and furniture much damaged.

The gas next filled the premises of Mr. W. Gerrard, tobacconist, No. 152, in the same thoroughfare, which blew up the greater portion of the building. Strange as it may appear, no one was materially injured in this house. The gas then appears to have passed in a dense current across the roadway, and entered every crevice in the windows and window frames. Several other houses in the row were likewise similarly injured. The parish engineer, and Mr. Bridges, were early in arriving, and succeeded in extinguishing the fire.

Provincial News.

THE MURDER OF MR. FITZGERALD AT KILMALLOCK.—The pistols used by the assassins were discovered yesterday week, in the thatch of an outhouse, where Beckham was arrested. They were purchased by him at Mr. Whittaker's, in Limerick. Mr. Whittaker was conducted to the county gaol, where Beckham was, with others, paraded, and he at once identified Beckham. It is expected that Mr. Whittaker, who has gone to Kilmallock, will be able to identify one of the suspected conspirators as the party who was in company with Beckham when he bought the pistols. We have been informed that the chase after Walsh, the second party charged with the murder of Mr. Fitzgerald, has been of a most desperate and exciting character. On Wednesday he was tracked by a party of sixteen police to the neighbourhood of the Limerick Junction. Three of them had him in sight, and were in full pursuit of him across the country; but if the information we have received be correct he must be a man of extraordinary activity, for under those circumstances he contrived to baffle his pursuers. One of the three was ahead of him, and two close behind. A wide stream was before him, and he cleared it at a bound, and then dashing upon the policeman who was at the other side, struck him down. The other two, probably fully accounted, could not clear the stream, but fell heavily into the midst of it. The time thus gained gave him the opportunity for a fresh start, of which he seems to have made good use, for no account of his capture has reached us as yet.

THE FRATRICIDE AT NEWCASTLE.—John Berry has been brought up at the Manor Police-court, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for final examination, on the charge of causing the death of his brother, by stabbing him with a knife during a drunken brawl. The case had been remanded to allow of the attendance of William Redhead, one of the men attacked and wounded by the prisoner. After hearing his evidence, the Bench fully committed the prisoner for trial at the Assizes, on the charge of wilful murder.

THE BURNING OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.—The preparatory notices to entitle the authorities to seek compensation from the ratepayers of Cork city for the malicious burning of the college, have been served on the parties deputed by law to receive them. The estimated value of the property destroyed is £7,000, of which £5,000 is claimed by the commissioners of the Board of Works for the injury to the building and the destruction of public property, and £2,000 by the professors and students, as the value of the personal property belonging to them which had been consumed.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH OF A RICH GENTLEMAN.—During the last few days some extraordinary facts have come to light relative to the death of a gentleman, who died in the immediate vicinity of Cheltenham some three or four years since, leaving large legacies to various personal friends and acquaintances. The deceased, it was supposed at the time, had died suddenly from heart disease, but, from circumstances that have since transpired, an investigation of a private nature has taken place. It is said that application will forthwith be made to the Secretary of State for an order to have the body exhumed, prior to an analysis being made.

THE DISTRESS IN BLACKBURN.—The number of distressed operatives at Blackburn is still on the increase, owing, as is supposed, to the total absorption of the means of those who have hitherto kept themselves off the relief lists. Last week the number of persons relieved in the Blackburn Union was 10,089, being eighty-four more than in the previous week. The tide of private benevolence is, however, flowing into that district, and the relief fund has very happily been considerably augmented. Mr. Farnall, the Poor-law inspector, has been busy visiting various places in the union, and it is expected he will deliver a report to the guardians on Wednesday.

MUNIFICENT GIFTS.—Some time since we recorded the pleasing fact that the most hon. the Marquis of Westminster had given to the trustees of the Women's Almshouses at Shaftesbury £2,000; we have now much pleasure in stating that his lordship has most liberally added £3,000 more to the same fund, so that the old women who are the recipients of this charity are now, thanks to his lordship, placed in comparative comfort for the remainder of their days.—*Salisbury Journal*.

HORRIBLE OCCURRENCE AT YORK.—Last week, whilst a stonemason, named Robert Jennings, was working at a wall which overhangs a railway-cutting near York, he fell a distance of thirty feet to the ground. He was severely injured, but under the treatment of his medical attendant, Dr. Arthur, hopes were entertained of his recovery until Tuesday evening last, when he made a frightful attempt at self-destruction. It seems that Jennings had a debauched and profligate life, and since the accident has been quite reckless as to his future state. When he was suffering from paroxysms of pain, his conduct was of the most violent nature, and his chief anxiety was that he might die, and thus put an end to his sufferings. As he still lingered, he determined to destroy himself. On Tuesday he succeeded in obtaining a knife, and having by a pretext got rid of his attendants, cut across his stomach three times, causing his bowels to gush out in a most horrible manner. Dr. Arthur shortly afterwards arrived, and succeeded in sewing up the wound; but, as Jennings still announced his intention of terminating his existence, his arms were strapped securely across his chest to prevent his tearing the wound open. In this frightful state he at present lies without the slightest hope of recovery, and pertinaciously refuses to partake of any food, in the hope thereby of hastening death by starvation.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

THE LIMERICK MURDER.—The coroner's inquest on the body of Mr. Fitzgerald was resumed on Saturday, and resulted in the following verdict:—"We, the coroner's jury, find that the late Francis Fitzgerald came by his death from the effects of two gunshot wounds inflicted on him, the said Francis Fitzgerald, on Friday, the 15th instant, in the townland of Garrinroe, and liberties of Kilmallock, and County of Limerick, and the first shot was fired by Thomas Beckham, aided and assisted by another person, not yet in custody; and we find wilful murder against Thomas Beckham."

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY CATASTROPHE.—The Report of Mr. Kenyon Blackwell on the late catastrophe at Hartley, in the official investigation of which, as the representative of the Home-office, that gentleman took part, has been published. The document is of considerable importance, and will doubtless be read with interest, as tending to throw additional light on the circumstances of that fearful calamity, and the nature of the legislative measures which should be adopted with a view to the prevention of similar accidents in future. From the date of the entry found on the person of the overman, Amour, Mr. Blackwell concludes that the men in the pit did not later than the afternoon of the day succeeding the fatal occurrence, and the death of the sufferers, he thinks, had been attended with comparatively little pain. The material of the engine-beam, which occasioned so great a sacrifice of human life, is represented as having been of "fair" quality, and the breakage is attributed to the violent concussion to which it is subjected, when its progress was arrested by coming in contact with the spring beams beneath, after the counterbalancing load in the shaft was partially or wholly lost. The inconvenience and danger of single shafts, both in point of ventilation and as a means of ingress and egress to the miners, are emphatically dwelt upon by Mr. Blackwell, and an earnest desire is expressed that such a system should henceforth be abolished, the cost of a different and more safe arrangement being, in many instances, of a very trivial character. Such is a summary of this elaborate report, and it is to be hoped that the present session of Parliament, now fast approaching towards a close, may not pass over without some action being taken upon so vital and important a subject.

THE LUDGATE-HILL TRAGEDY.

On Monday afternoon, at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate Hill, Mr. Sergeant Payne, the coroner for the City of London, opened an inquiry before a jury composed of the principal inhabitants of the ward of Farringdon-Within, into the cause of the death of Annie Howard Vyse, aged seven years, and Alice Vyse, aged five years, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Vyse, of No. 30, Ludgate-street, who, it is supposed, had been poisoned by their mother, Mrs. Vyse, and who afterwards attempted suicide by cutting her throat on the evening of Thursday week.

The circumstances of this painful case, from their peculiarity and the respectable position Mrs. Vyse occupied both in her private character, and the extensive and lucrative business as a milliner and straw bonnet manufacturer she has carried on for so many years, (it being a continuation of one of the oldest and most respectable businesses in the City of London) has caused the greatest possible interest, which has increased in its intensity, and the inquest room was crowded long before the proceedings commenced.

The post mortem examination of the bodies took place on Saturday by Mr. Savory, surgeon, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and assistants.

Mrs. Vyse continued in a precarious state at her residence in Ludgate-street.

Mr. Moss, of Queen-street, Cheap-side, attended as a friend, to watch the case on the part of Mr. Vyse.

Mr. Vinning attended on the part of the family of Mr. Vyse. Mr. Humphreys, jun., attended on the part of Mr. John Unwin Taylor, assistant of Mr. Keating, chemist, of St. Paul's Church-yard.

On the return of the jury from viewing the bodies, the first witness called was

Mr. John Sanders Moon, member of the Stock Exchange, who deposed to the age of the deceased.

Mr. Scholey Savory, assistant surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, deposed that the first time he saw the deceased was on Thursday evening, about five o'clock, in a top room of the house. They were dead, both bodies much discoloured, livid, and although they were warm, having almost the living temperature they were quite rigid. Saw them again on Friday about four o'clock, and made a post mortem examination. No marks of violence, except some small spots or bruises on the arm, as if caused by pinching or pressure, were observable.

The Coroner: Have you made an analysis of the stomach?

Witness: I have not done that, as I thought that was not the duty of a surgeon but rather of a professional chemist.

The Coroner: The order expressly stated that you should make a post mortem.

The witness said he had made some experiments, and was of opinion that the stomach contained strychnine, but he was not competent to give a positive opinion.

John Unwin Taylor, assistant to Mr. Keating, of St. Paul's churchyard, deposed he sold some poison to Mrs. Vyse, on Thursday, about twelve o'clock. She said they were very much troubled with mice, and that they had made a hole and done much damage, which cost them £5 to repair. She also said they were troubled so much with them in the bedroom that they could not sleep, and that one ran up the window-curtain, and she had to brush it off and knock it on the floor, and said she was so afraid they would get at her baby. She then asked for some poison, and inquired of witness if he could not give her some prussic acid. He said he could not serve her with that. She then asked if he had any other poison. Witness told her that they had Butler's and Bartle's vermin killer; and eventually she took two sixpenny and two threepenny packets away with her.

Mary Ann McSweeney deposed that she was housemaid to Mr. Vyse. She recollected Mrs. Vyse going out in the morning part. Did not see anything she brought in with her. She went out again, and was out a short time. The children were up-stairs about four o'clock in the front bedroom, on the top floor. She saw them lying on the bed with their shoes off. Mrs. Vyse called witness down. She went up to her bedroom and took off her bonnet and shawl. Mrs. Vyse told me to go to Mr. Keating's, and ask for a packet the same as she had in the morning. She told me not to be long, and to look sharp. She got the packet and hastened back, and took it to her mistress's bedroom. She found the door shut, knocked, and got no answer. She knocked a second time, and heard a noise as if her mistress was sick. She went down-stairs and told the cook there was something the matter. She went up-stairs again and knocked. Mrs. Vyse said, who was there? I answered, Eliza. She replied, "You can't come in." I ran down-stairs and called out, and told Miss Saunders, Mrs. Vyse's sister, to come up. They went up together and forced the door open, and they then saw her near the marble washstand bleeding, with a razor in her hand. Miss Saunders said, "Good God! what are you doing?" Mrs. Vyse replied, "Annie, dear, let me die! I wish to hang myself! My two little children are in Heaven, and I wish to go to them. Go into the next room!" Witness said she would run for a doctor. Mrs. Vyse replied, "No, it's too late." Witness went into the front room and saw the children lying on the bed, as if they were asleep. She then ran for the doctor. Miss Saunders was in the room. She afterwards gave the packet to the doctor.

In reply to several questions put by the coroner and jury, the witness said the children were quite well, and had their dinner about two o'clock. They were quite well when she saw them first on the bed.

Eliza McSweeney, recalled, stated that she attended on the children at their dinner; they had cold roast beef, and the eldest girl had some black currant pudding. She was quite certain they had nothing at their dinner that would disagree with them. They dined alone with their eldest brother.

Mr. Savory, recalled, said he had made up some of the powder given to him in flour and water. He made it up into a bolus, and put it down the throat of a rat; the rat was seized with convulsions and died. His belief from the appearance was that the powder contained strychnine in some form or other.

The Coroner said at present they had not sufficient evidence before them without the analysis, and it would be better to adjourn, and the inquiry was eventually adjourned for Friday, the 6th of June, at two o'clock.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

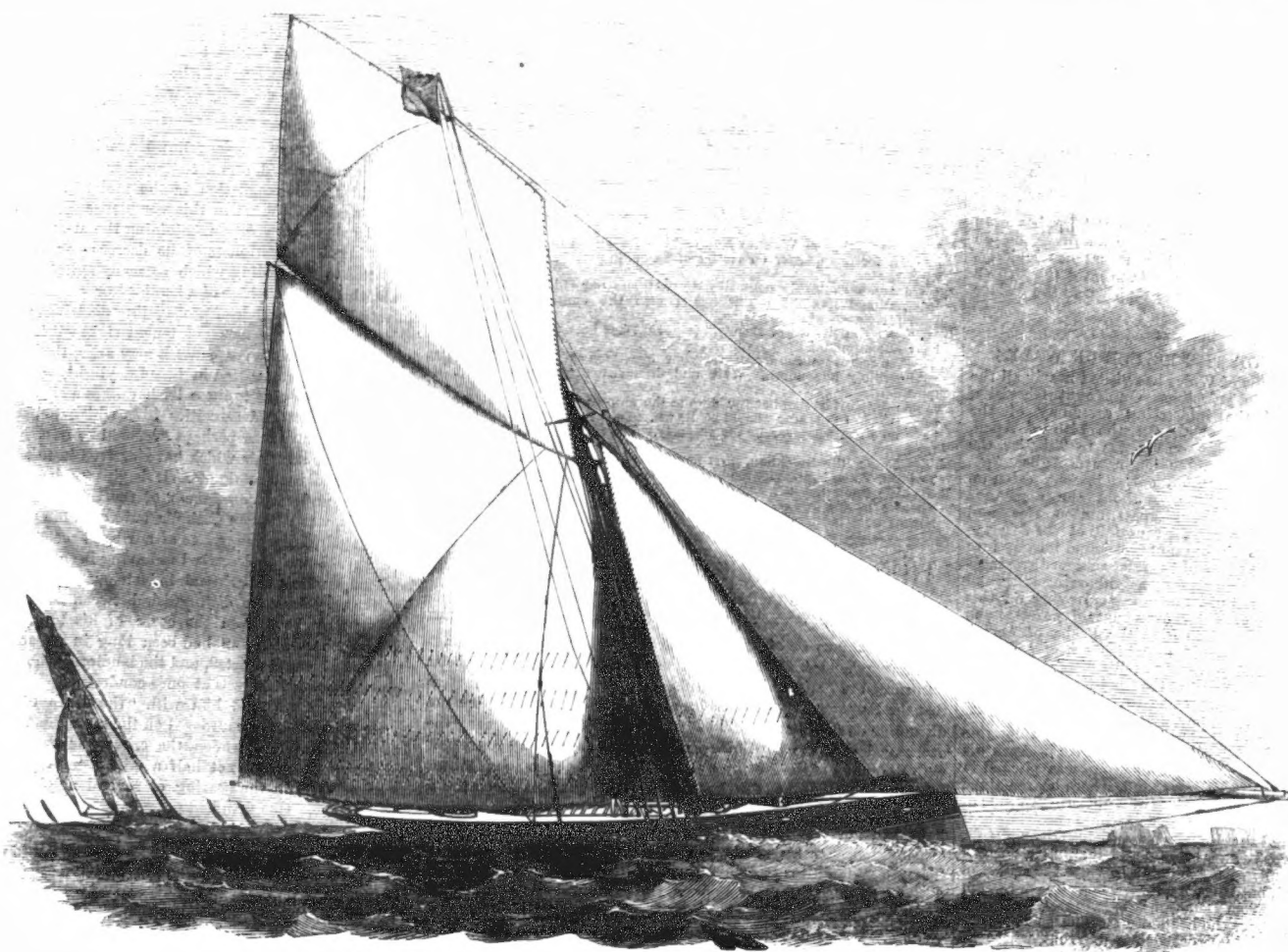
From information received through a source which there is every reason to believe reliable, it appears that Mrs. Vyse is a native of the small town of Bideford, in Devonshire, where Taylor and his wife, who destroyed three of their children by poison in Manchester, set up in business in a wine and spirit shop in 1861. Mrs. Vyse is a person of excitable and impressionable temperament, and the connexion of the Taylors with the district from which she came no doubt caused the Manchester tragedy—of which it is stated, she often conversed—to take a morbid hold of her imagination, already heated by a deplorable feeling of jealousy.

Mrs. Vyse's father is stated to have been for many years a highly respectable chemist in the south of England, and she was herself for some time an attendant in the establishment at Ludgate-hill, or more accurately, Ludgate-street, under the mother of her present husband. She was an admirable woman of business, and her talents and lady-like manners contributed much to the prosperity of the establishment.

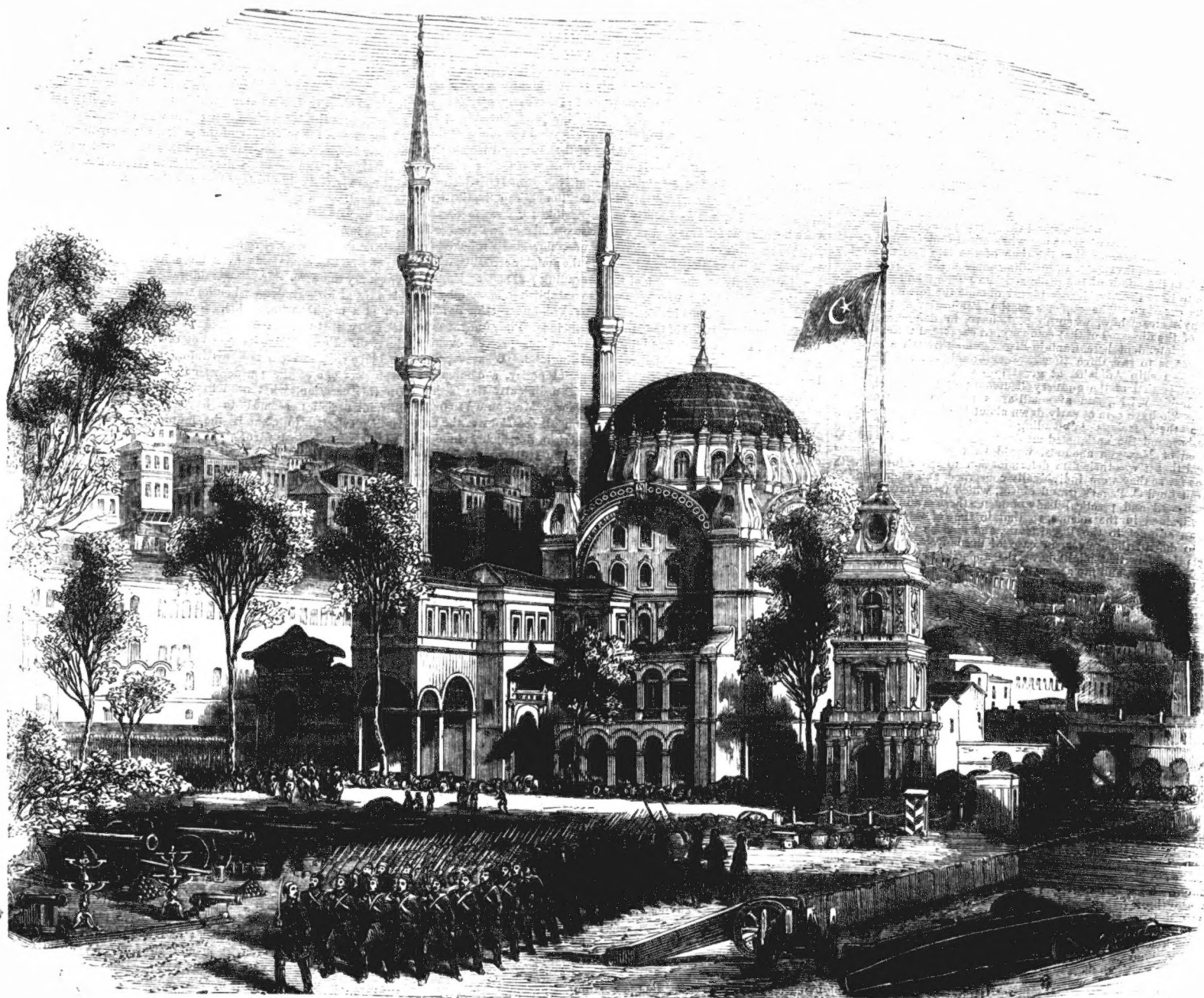
The professional gentlemen who have charge of the unhappy woman are still in doubt as to the probability of her surviving, in consequence of the extraordinary prostration which results from the great loss of blood. It was stated that there appeared to be a slight improvement in her condition; and if no new symptoms manifested themselves, it is thought possible that she may survive. She is, of course, not to be trusted.



THE PRINCE OF WALES IN THE EAST.—INTERIOR OF THE MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA. (See page 534.)



SAILING MATCH OF THE R. T. Y. C.—THE MARINA. (See page 538.)



THE PRINCE OF WALES IN THE EAST—THE MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA AND ARSENAL, CONSTANTINOPLE. (See page 534.)

The Court.

Her Majesty has daily driven out during the week—once to Tottenham, going down by the south side of the river, and returning by the north. She has also made a visit to Birkhall. The Court will probably leave Balmoral on the 30th, starting in the afternoon, and travelling direct to London over night.

His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, attended by Major Cowell, arrived at Balmoral on the 23rd, at twelve o'clock, and his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, attended by Major Elphinstone, arrived later in the afternoon.

The contemplated trip of Queen Victoria to Coburg has been made the occasion for addressing to her Majesty an invitation on the part of the Austrian Court. It is hoped that her Majesty, after a stay at Reinhardtbrunn, where she is to meet the Crown Princess of Prussia, will pay a visit to the Emperor at the Palace of Greinburg, in Upper Austria.

THE EASTERN TOUR OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has visited nearly all the sacred and historical places in Palestine. On Mount Gherizim, near Nablous, he witnessed the interesting ceremony of the Samaritans celebrating their Passover. On the 14th of April, travelling over the plain of Esdracelon, on his way to Tiberias, the Prince lunched with a famous Bedouin chief, named Agilse Aga. The repast was in all respects an Arabian entertainment, eaten on the ground in a recumbent position, without the assistance of knives and forks; and the dishes—roast mutton, rice, and sour milk, prepared doubtless by some Francatelli of the desert—were cooked after a fashion which has not yet found its way into European cookery books. The giver of the finest achieved greatness some years since by a successful razzia on a neighbouring tribe, and the slaughter of above a hundred of its members. Having on this occasion obtained possession of a large amount of portable and divisible property, he could afford to give the Pasha of Acre a liberal backsheesh, in acknowledgment of which act of judicious generosity he was made agn and governor of his district. During the massacre in Syria he took the part of the Christians. Touching Acre and Mount Thabor, the Prince came to Safet, where a local grandee, who rejoiced in the title of bey, arranged a hawking party; and the road to Hasbaya and Rashaya was enlivened by this obsolete, picturesque, and exciting sport. On the 28th of April his Royal Highness reached Damascus, when his camp was pitched in a beautiful garden outside the town gates, and where he remained two days, being accompanied in all his rides by a glittering retinue of pashas, troops of Lancers and Bashibazouks, whose special duty it seemed to be to career round the Royal party, firing their pistols, and brandishing their swords and lances, and making a sort of Astley's wherever they went. An excursion to view the cedars of Lebanon had been planned, but bad weather set in on the mountain and stayed the expedition. From Damascus the Prince, who looked wonderfully well, and who bore the heats of Palestine as unflinchingly as any Red Cross Knight, proceeded to Beyrout, where he met with an overwhelmingly enthusiastic reception.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived at Constantinople on the 20th inst. The Turkish fleet saluted and manned yards. The Grand Vizier and the Captain Pasha immediately went on board the Prince's vessel. The Prince landed at the Imperial Palace, on the steps of which he was received by the Sultan. Court carriages and an escort were in waiting, and conveyed his Royal Highness to the British embassy. The Sultan returned the Prince's visit within an hour.

Among the principal objects of interest visited were the famous Mosque of St. Sophia and the Arsenal, engravings of which are given on pages 532-3. The Mosque of St. Sophia was begun between the years 531 and 537, under the Emperor Justinian.

ARMY, NAVY, AND VOLUNTEERS.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE EAST INDIES.—The following is an extract from a letter from Bombay:—"I believe it is not generally known to the English public that a little band of warriors has lately sprung up here, which, small though the force may be, will, with constant drill, be of great use when afloat in defending themselves from privateers, and at the time of the late Indian mutiny would have been invaluable in instilling some slight degree of confidence into the minds of the panic-stricken public who had the ill-fortune to have their residences placed outside the fort on that momentous occasion. The *empouys* of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamships, when in port, have, in deference to the wishes of the directors of that company, as expressed through their able superintendent here, Captain Black, gone through a series of drill—that is to say, three times a week—on board her Majesty's East Indian ship *Adjdah*, at great gun practice, under the experienced tuition of the gunnery lieutenant of that vessel, Lieutenant Robison R.N., and at small-arms practice under an able gunner. To have seen at early dawn about 100 Englishmen going through their facings, 'extending skirmishers,' and 'forming squares' around the antiquated mango trees with which the neighbourhood of Mazagon abounds, would have convinced the most sceptical that it was their firm determination to enter into it with spirit as far as they were individually concerned, and endeavour to carry out Lord C. Paget's grand object, which is to form part of a well-educated and practical body of men (these are his lordship's words), trained in the science, so that in time of war they would prove an adjunct to the Royal Navy, and also be prepared at all times to defend themselves, in case of need, from any of those daring privateers that might have the audacity to follow the *San Jacinto's* example, and fire across their bows."

5TH BANTS VOLUNTEERS.—The members of the B company have presented the newly-appointed adjutant and captain of the above company (Captain F. C. Gordon) with a complete set of horse furniture as a token of their respect.

On Saturday afternoon and evening, in consequence of the fine weather, the Regent's park was visited by a large number of volunteers. The first corps which arrived was the 15th Middlesex (London Scottish) Rifles, under the command of Captains Page and Jax. The corps was accompanied by its splendid brass band and piper, and took up position to the left of the second park. Shortly after wards, the 19th Middlesex (Working Men's College), under the command of Major Hughes and Captain and Adjutant Reid, the 46th Middlesex (London and Westminster), under the command of the adjutant, Captain Elmslie; the 37th Middlesex (Blossbury) Rifles, and the 40th Middlesex (Central London Rifle Rangers) under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Somerset and Major Campbell, entered the park through the various gates with their lands taking. With the exception of the London Scottish, all the corps took ground near Holford House. Altogether there could not have been less than 2,000 volunteers on the ground. The movements were then commenced by the 19th Middlesex throwing out skirmishers to the south of the ornamental water, while the reserves were stationed near a clump of trees about two hundred yards off. The Blossbury Volunteers, who mustered in good force, also threw out skirmishers in the same direction. Both corps maintained their fire very steadily, and on the order being given to form battalion and rallying squares, an effect which the visitors to the park have seldom witnessed was produced. The firing in line was very good, as were also all the movements which these corps were put through. There were several thousands of spectators present, and the movements, which began at five o'clock in the afternoon, did not terminate till past nine.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Sketches of important passing events, new buildings, &c. calculated to interest the public, are respectfully solicited from our subscribers in all parts of the world. Send real name and address as voucher for the correctness of the sketch.

NOTICE TO PUBLISHERS.

Publishers will much oblige by forwarding to us the titles of forthcoming publications; and any books they may wish noticed should be sent early in the week, addressed to the Editor of the "Illustrated Weekly News," 12, York-street, Covent Garden, London, will be noticed in our next.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- * THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS will be forwarded to any address free by post for one quarter on receipt of 2s. 2d. in postage stamps or otherwise.
- * We are unavoidably compelled to postpone our illustrations of the International Exhibition this week; also the continuation of our descriptive account of the same.
- R. Y. S.—"The Mission of Beauty," (a poem.) has been received, and will have due attention.
- C. L.—We regret we cannot answer your questions at present. It is not yet definitely announced. Wait, and then write direct to the theatre in question.
- FRANK.—Interest having been paid up to the present time, it is not necessary that a fresh note should be drawn. To the second question, you have no claim whatever on the property. The nephews and nieces are the heirs.
- M. L.—Young, the tragedian, first made his appearance at the Queen's Theatre, Tottenham-court-road, in 1867, at a private performance.
- R. R.—We know not the particular fire to which you allude, Astley's Theatre having been destroyed more than once. In 1795, nineteen houses were burnt with it.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1862.

The general purpose of the visit of M. Mercier to Richmond cannot be misapprehended. The information acquired has, of course, been transmitted to Paris, and the friends of the Confederate cause assert that the Emperor Napoleon has been confirmed in his belief that the disruption is irrevocable. The communications which may be exchanged with the Southern Cabinet were necessarily consistent with the views of the Northern Government. The French Minister would not have gone to the Confederate headquarters to ensure a lot of tobacco, and he would have violated all diplomatic propriety if he had not previously stated his intentions to the Cabinet at Washington. On his return, the President and the Secretary of State, in taking pains to do him personal honour, were probably influenced by a natural desire to prove the falsehood of the rumours which attributed to the Emperor Napoleon projects of hostile intervention. It may be safely conjectured that M. Mercier urged on the authorities at Richmond the imprudence of persevering in a struggle which has entailed on them so many disasters. By persuading them to abandon the contest he would have rendered a great service to both parties while he would have attained an object which he would have considered still more desirable in re-opening the trade of the South with his own country; and Mr. Lincoln, perhaps, convinced at the assurances of Imperial patronage and intercession which he may have offered on behalf of his Government. A year ago, Mr. Seward published a gratuitous protest against any possible mediation which might be proposed by any European Sovereign; but Americans, when they speak of the world beyond the limits of their own States, are always really thinking of that England which they are always ready to affront. It was the tyranny of Queen Victoria, and not the enlightened Administration of Napoleon III. which was by a rude implication, contrasted with Republican institutions. With Americans, it is apparently as impossible for France to provoke hostility as for England to conciliate confidence and good-will. Neither menaces of breaking the blockade, nor sharp rebukes for violations of international law, interrupt the amiable credulity which is at bottom only another form of the pervading jealousy of English greatness. The ruler who proposes to establish a monarchy in Mexico by force of arms has scarcely provoked an occasional murmur among the votaries of the Monroe doctrine. The annoyance to Republican susceptibilities will, by some ingenious process, eventually be placed, as usual, to the account of England. Whatever may be the obliquities or eccentricities of Imperial policy, a community of interests has made France in the American difficulty the faithful ally of England. In the earlier part of the war, Mr. Seward thought it ingenious to hold different language on all occasions to the two great Powers which had framed their American despatches in concert. It is possible that similar devices may still be occasionally practised. The Emperor Napoleon is, on good grounds, supposed to entertain unfriendly feelings to the Northern States, but his practical exertions will be directed to the attainment, not of revenge but of cotton. Two or three months ago, while all the Southern districts were still in the power of the Confederate Government, France would, but for the remonstrances of England, have put an end to the blockade. With New Orleans, and the greater number of Southern ports, in the hands of the Federalists, it would be idle to force a passage by sea to a coast belonging to the blockading Power. For the present, trade can only be resumed on condition of peace, and therefore M. Mercier only consulted the interests of his Government if he urged the Southern leaders to abandon their enterprise. It is not impossible that his interference may have revived in their minds the hope of a more active European intervention. Their belief in the indispensable necessity of cotton has not yet been thoroughly uprooted, and they may plausibly point out the advantages which the Confederacy offers to foreign trade. Even if the Southern ports were reopened for the export of cotton, they would be only held ajar for the admission of foreign manufactures. There is nothing in the activity of the French Government to provoke jealousy or opposition. In the United States, England has long been accustomed to the treatment which is deemed appropriate to the least-favoured nation. It would be childish to allow unmerited slights to influence national policy. As the Americans prefer French interference, the friendly counsels of England may well be reserved when the same advice is urged from a more acceptable quarter. Sensible statesmen are content if their objects are attained without any instrumentality of their own. A prudent diplomatist is perhaps not displeased with an excuse for abstaining from a display of eloquence which is almost certain to be fruitless. The Federal Government, after its recent successes, could not at present enter into negotiations for a frontier, and although the South is severely pressed by the invading armies, there are obvious

reasons against immediate submission. A Southern victory is still possible, the approach of summer is certain, and the collapse of the Federal finances can scarcely be delayed beyond the end of the year. On the whole, a judicious bystander will not be eager to tender good offices which both parties are likely to reject; and, under present circumstances, the French Government will submit to the disagreeable necessity of waiting.

THE late Tipperary murders show beyond all shadow of doubt that the assassins counted, and not altogether without reason, upon the sympathies of the population in the midst of whom their crimes were committed. Whether this confidence sprang from the existence of a riband association, enjoining the death of its victims and appointing the executioners of its decrees—or whether it is to be attributed to the feeling which so many agitators have helped to create, that the slaughter of a landlord or an interloping tenant is almost a legitimate mode of propagating doctrines which are known in Ireland under the name of tenant-right—it is not very easy to say. But from whatever cause it may arise, the fact that murders are deliberately committed in broad daylight, without any attempt at disguise, does give to these Irish crimes a character very different from the isolated atrocities from which neither England nor any other country is or perhaps ever will be free. Not to go further back than the accounts which have arrived in this month of May, we have a dismal catalogue. It begins with the murder of M. Thiebault, under circumstances of the true Tipperary type. M. Thiebault, was a Roman Catholic, but a common religion is no protection against the vengeance of a riband society. The unfortunate Frenchman is described as having been a kind and humane landlord, anxious to befriend industrious tenants; and it may be that the very desire to distinguish between the worthless and deserving may have been the cause of his tragical fate. Three brothers named Halloran had been long in arrear with their rent, and were at length evicted, and the landlord, who resumed possession of his own land, was at once condemned. A letter addressed to his wife threatened him with "the death of Roe," a former owner who had been murdered on the same estate; and at four or five o'clock in the afternoon, the crime was committed in an open and frequented road, not half a mile from the murdered man's house, and within the hearing of several neighbours who offered no assistance. One man had passed and recognised the murderer a few minutes before in conversation with M. Thiebault. He heard two shots, saw the assassin going down the road, and went on his way without interfering. It was only after repeated denials and evasions that he was induced to admit that he recognised Thomas Halloran as the man whom he had seen. The same disposition to screen the murderer was shown by other witnesses. The next case (which occurred in the same county about a week later) was almost identical in its circumstances, except that it was the incoming tenant instead of the landlord who was killed. Maguire, like M. Thiebault, was a Roman Catholic, but he had committed the unpardonable offence of having taken a farm from which a former occupier named Kennedy had been evicted. Kennedy threatened to be revenged, and in a few days Maguire was found murdered in a field where two of his own men were working, and close to a road along which the constabulary patrol had passed about the time when the crime was committed. Probably on account of the proximity of the police, the weapon selected was a knife instead of a gun, but beyond this there was no attempt at concealment; and the same disposition to screen the prisoner was still more strikingly displayed at the inquest. Passing over two assassinations in Belfast, which followed close upon the Tipperary murders, but were not, like them, connected with the occupation of land, a few days' later news brings an account of the murder, in the county of Limerick, of another Roman Catholic landlord. The atrocity of the crime was even more horrible than either of the Tipperary murders. Mr. Fitzgerald was standing by daylight, with his wife, at his own door, when he was shot through the head from behind a neighbouring hedge. So little precaution was thought necessary, that the gun was fired when a stranger was coming up the road. Fortunately, he was not of the class whose complicity could be reckoned on, and his information led to the immediate capture of one of the murderers and the hot pursuit of the other. On this occasion, what used to be the invariable tactics of the Riband societies seemed to have been revived, for the assassins selected to commit the murder were strangers to the neighbourhood, instead of being persons whose known grievances would point them out at once to suspicion. It is difficult to read such accounts as these without the conviction that they are not records of isolated crimes, but the first fruits of a revival of the old system of terrorism which so long disgraced the Irish peasantry; nor is evidence wanting that the old encouragement will be given to agrarian crime by parading the supposed harshness of the landlord and tenant law as a palliation, if not a justification, for private revenge. Tenant-right agitators have already begun to hint in the Irish papers that the law is indirectly chargeable with Irish crime; and a Dublin alderman, who dared to express his horror at crimes which he looked upon as a disgrace to the character and religion of Ireland, was promptly assailed by a patriotic newspaper as a calumniator of his country. It is unhappily impossible to stay the propagation of doctrines which act as a direct inducement to the worst class of crimes, but it may be practicable to counteract their effect by the instant application of repressive measures. There is one, and only one, redeeming feature in the present state of things as compared with the old days. It has long been evident, from various unmistakeable hints, that the Roman Catholic clergy were cognizant of the projected revival of the Riband conspiracy, and, in some instances, they seem to have done their best to prevent the relapse of their country into its old course of crime. The parish priest of Kilmallock where Mr. Fitzgerald was murdered, has earnestly entreated his congregation to remove the stain upon their district by aiding, to the utmost of their power, in the conviction of the assassin; and, as it is tolerably certain that the actual perpetrator of the deed was a stranger, it is possible that these exhortations may not be without effect. We do not find, however, that the Tipperary clergy have been able to combat the sympathy which their people have palpably displayed for the murderers of M. Thiebault and Maguire. That they feel the disgrace which is brought upon their country it would be impossible to doubt, but even with the best dispositions the power of the priesthood is not what it was.

OPENING OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.

This magnificent new iron bridge, of which we give a splendid engraving on page 536, was opened on Saturday morning last, shortly after four o'clock. This early hour was selected as being the hour of the birth of her Majesty, May 24th, 1819, at Kensington. But for the lamented death of the Prince Consort, the bridge would have been opened by her Majesty in person. A salute of 25 guns was fired, corresponding with the number of years which her Majesty has reigned. The new bridge is very nearly twice as wide as any of the bridges over the Thames. Within the parapets it is 84 feet 2 inches wide. Of this the footways occupy 28 feet, the road for the light traffic 39 feet, the tramways 14 feet 8 inches, and the space between them 2 feet 6 inches. The tramways consist of iron plates bolted to timbers, and laid upon an elastic bed of cork and latumen. The kerb of the footway is formed of Ross of Mull granite; the footway itself is of Bashfield's terra cotta. It inclines towards the parapet with a fall of 1½ inch, and a gutter on each side carries off the water. The pavement is laid in diamonds, and it has a very pleasing effect. The span of the different arches are: Nos. 1 and 7 arches, span 94 feet 7 inches; Nos. 2 and 6, 104 feet 6 inches; Nos. 3 and 5, 115 feet; centre arch, span 120 feet. The arches are formed of seven ribs, which are of cast iron, with the exception of the crown or centre piece, which are of wrought iron, as, owing to their not being so deep at this part, greater strength of metal is required. The foundations of the bridge were formed without the use of the time-honoured coffer-dam, and the large expenditure which the construction of them would have involved has, therefore, been saved. A series of piles were driven into the bed of the river, which form the base upon which the piers were to rest. There are 145 piles in each, and they are driven to an average depth of 29 feet. The pressure on the bearing piles of the bridge is 15 tons, while upon the London Bridge it is as much as 18 tons; the pressure on each square foot of ground is but 2 tons, as compared with 5½ tons at London Bridge. The roadway of the new bridge is 12 feet lower than that of the old Westminster Bridge, the gradient at the centre arch is 1 in 362, at the two next 1 in 123 and 1 in 75, the two next 1 in 57, and on the abutments 1 in 54. The following is a statement of the quantities of materials used in the construction of the new bridge:—Timber in bearing piles, 45,700 cubic feet; cast iron (in foundations), 1,600 tons; ditto (in superstructure), 2,600 tons; wrought iron (in foundations), 70 tons; ditto (in superstructure), 1,300 tons; granite and other stones (in the piers and abutments) 165,000 cubic feet; brickwork (in Portland cement), 21,000 cubic yards; concrete (in Portland cement), 30,000 cubic yards. The old bridge, which has been superseded, has stood for 110 years, and, with very slight interruption, had during the whole of that period afforded accommodation for the yearly increasing traffic between the two sides of the river. The bridge was commenced in 1739, and after twelve years was completed at a cost of £380,500. It was originally intended to have been built of wood, and some progress was made in the foundations of the piers for a work of that description, when it was afterwards found necessary to build it of stone. Westminster Bridge was the second one erected in the metropolis, and at that time there existed only old London Bridge, with its steep ascent and narrow roadway of 20 feet, a notable gateway, a chapel, and other buildings, which had stood for nearly six centuries, had twenty arches, the whole water-way being but 450 feet. When Lord Albemarle proposed, therefore, to open the river by a stone bridge with only thirteen arches, he was considered a bold and rash man. He, however, succeeded, and Westminster Bridge was accounted one of the wonders of the world. The arches were thirteen in number, with two small culvert arches. It provided a clear water-way of 820 feet, or nearly double that of old London Bridge. The present bridge was commenced in May, 1864, but various delays subsequently occurred, and it was not until about the middle of 1869 that Mr. Page was enabled to proceed vigorously with the bridge, which is the fourth constructed by that engineer over the Thames.

THE FATAL POACHING AFFRAY NEAR NOTTINGHAM.

On Monday afternoon the adjourned inquest upon the body of John Hayes, who was drowned during the recent poaching affray at Thrumpton, on the fishing preserves of the Hon. Captain Byron, was resumed before Mr. Coroner Swann. Thomas Whitby, one of the keepers of the Hon. Captain Byron, stated that on the evening previous to the affray taking place, he and another watcher, named Peach, were out on duty and saw a number of men fishing in the Trent. Witness and his comrades went up and attempted to capture them. Three of them had bludgeons about four feet long. Witness and his companions upon this went for further assistance, and shortly afterwards returned with three more keepers. Witness and his friends were all armed. After the affray had lasted some time, two of the poachers sprang into the water, and attempted to make their escape. Peach struck one of the others with a hay-fork, and witness secured his companion. Witness could swear that the poachers were not knocked down by any blow and forced into the water.

Dr. Robertson stated that he had witnessed a post-mortem examination made on the body of the deceased. There were no marks of violence on any part of the body, except on the forehead, where one part of the skin was dark-coloured. On removing the skull-cap, it was found that this discolouration extended to the inner surface, but there was no fracture of any part of the skull. He believed the mark on the forehead to have been caused before death. The blow would have been sufficient to stun him, and render him unable to swim. It must have been a violent blow, and, if given on land, would have knocked him down.

One of the keepers, named Goulder, said he saw the deceased swimming across the Trent, and when he had got about thirty yards in the water he was carried off by the stream and drowned. The coroner, in summing up, said there was not sufficient evidence adduced to warrant the jury in returning a verdict of manslaughter.

A verdict of "Accidentally drowned" was recorded.

THE GLENPOWER MURDER.—The inquest on the body of Mr. Maguire was closed on Saturday last, when the jury, after twenty-five minutes' consideration, returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased, Michael Maguire, of Ardabane, in the county of Tipperary, came by his death on Tuesday, 6th May, from a wound inflicted on his throat by some person or persons unknown."

DEMONIACAL ACT.—On Monday evening, just previous to the men employed on the Underground Railway leaving off work, a most demoniacal act was committed by one of the workmen engaged in fixing the elliptical iron roof over the station constructing at King's-cross, by which a fellow-workman has been so frightfully mutilated that it is impossible that he can survive many hours. It appears that the two men above alluded to were employed on a hanging scaffold fixing an iron girder, when some words took place, and the more powerful of the two seized the other and deliberately flung him into the abyss below from a height of nearly forty feet. The poor fellow, who was literally smashed, was at once removed to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, where it was ascertained that both thighs were fractured to such an extent that immediate amputation was considered necessary. One of his arms was also broken, and he has sustained such serious internal injuries that not the slightest hope of his recovery is entertained. The perpetrator of this demoniacal act was removed in custody to the Bagnidge Wells Police-station, where the charge was entered as above stated.

THE TRAGEDY AT MANCHESTER.

HAVING despatched one of our artists to Manchester, we are this week enabled to present our readers with authentic sketches of the principal scenes of this terrible drama. The almost unparalleled nature of the dreadful occurrence, and the intense interest it is exciting throughout the country, must be our excuse for entering more fully into the illustrative details than is usually devoted to such harrowing scenes. But having the photographs and sketches of almost every particular in relation to the sad event, we thought it best to give them in our present issue, rather than carry them through two or three consecutive numbers. We may add that our artist was received most courteously wherever he went, and every facility afforded for obtaining the fullest details.

The principal facts connected with this deed of horror were given in our last; and before proceeding with further subsequent particulars, and the recapitulation of the necessary facts in reference to our illustrations, we will first give what we have been able to collect of the antecedents of both Taylor and the female (be she his wife or otherwise), the latter of whom has figured so strangely and prominently throughout the whole of the tragedy.

Taylor was a schoolmaster at Wivelscombe, and was connected with a religious body of Dissenters, and sometimes officiated in the pulpit. He lost his situation for seducing a young girl, and on the suspicion that he followed this offence with another and a greater, for which he was tried and acquitted. While he was at Crediton, in the employ of Messrs. Badcock and Co., wine merchants, his first wife died. Messrs. Badcock discharged him for misconduct. His next employers were Mr. P. M. Hadley, wine merchant, and Messrs. Fraser and Thirkettle, all of Exeter, for whom he travelled on commission. He then became acquainted with a Miss Giles, the daughter of a respectable farmer, now living at or near Wincanton, Somerset. From that time his habits became loose and irregular. Mr. Hadley discharged him, and subsequently obtained a warrant for Taylor's apprehension for embezzling about £120, and this warrant is still out against him. While he was in business at Bideford, Taylor committed forgery, but the woman who is supposed to be his wife (see Miss Giles) paid the money, and the person whose name was forged declined to prosecute.

A Devonshire correspondent to the *Manchester Examiner* gives some further particulars. Taylor is a native of Dunster, in Somersetshire. He was brought up by his father (who is a small shopkeeper) to the grocery business. While he afterwards held the situation of schoolmaster he became a leading man among the Dissenters of his neighbourhood, often preaching and being held in great respect by them. He lost that position by misconduct. While he was subsequently in the service of Mr. Badcock, wine and spirit merchant, of Crediton, as a clerk and traveller, his first wife died. The four children were then taken under the care of Taylor's father, who was very unwilling again to part with them. In 1859, Taylor again lost his situation through the charge of procuring abortion, on which he was acquitted. He then became a traveller for Mr. P. M. Hadley, wine and spirit merchant, Exeter, and for Messrs. Fraser and Thirkettle, grocers, in that city. For the first twelve months he conducted himself in an exemplary manner in their service, but one day overtaking on the road Martha Ann Giles (now Taylor, unless the marriage be after all disproved), he induced her to accompany him to the next town, where he passed her off as his wife. Her father, a farmer, is described as a person of respectability. At the same time Taylor was engaged to be married to a very respectable young lady, of Exeter. On the journey just referred to, however, he lost nearly a week's time, and is accused of having then commenced defalcations which caused his discharge from Mr. Hadley's employment in January, 1861. In the following March he opened business as a spirit-dealer at Bideford, in the manner that has been previously stated, obtaining large quantities of goods and furniture for three months' bills, and decamping with the proceeds of a sale by auction at a great sacrifice. He was seen nodding familiarly to some of his creditors as he left the town on an omnibus, playing an accordion. The charge for which he was brought before the magistrates while at Bideford, of forging an acceptance for £22, on the female prisoner's father, was withdrawn on the payment of the money.

The following appears in the *Bideford Weekly Gazette* of the 20th inst.:—"From bills found in the murderer's possession it has been discovered that he is the man who resided for about four months at Market-place, in this town, where he kept a wine and spirit shop. Superintendent Vanstone has received a communication from Manchester, inquiring into the family relations of the prisoner, and the bills sent him have been identified by Mr. Williams and Mr. Tardrew. There is also one from Mr. Saunders. It will be recollected that Taylor, shortly before his leaving, drew a bill of exchange on his father-in-law, Mr. Joseph Giles, of Hatherleigh Farm, Wincanton, Somerset, and he was charged before the magistrates, on Wednesday, May 22, 1861, with fraudulently inducing Mr. W. D. Major to endorse the same; but that charge fell to ground in consequence of there not being legal evidence to commit the prisoner. His wife was exceedingly violent on the occasion."

Taylor, it appears, from fragmentary account-books, first went to Manchester about twelve months since, leaving Bideford in May, 1861. Soon after, he became the tenant of 34, Rosamond-terrace, Ormond-street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, at which time they represented themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, from London. When they took possession of the house, they had no furniture, but furnished the place by degrees. It is stated that fourteen days elapsed prior to the four children being seen. They were then taken there in a cab, and from loud screaming from one or two of them, were evidently terrified on entering the house; but soon all became quiet. Subsequently, all were seen walking out together, but generally they kept in perfect seclusion. On the 14th of August, Taylor became tenant of a shop in Chester-road, but not having the means to open it, he let it, and then took the shop in Strangeways, which is the scene of the saddest part of the tragedy. It will be seen from our illustration on page 536, that this shop forms one of a number of very fine houses with shop-fronts, the rents of which are £50 a year. The house is four stories in height, and contains ten rooms, besides the shop and cellars. All the rooms are lofty, and have been fitted up with marble chimneys, and papered and ornamented in a superior style. Here Taylor commenced business as a butter-factor, but did not succeed; and on the 19th of January following occurred the accident to his child—the blowing up of a boiler in the kitchen—which appears to have had such an effect upon him. One of the feet of the child was blown off; and it is stated that he spent many days searching for it without avail. From this time a great change came over Taylor; even at a convivial meeting he made a savage attack upon a man, which at the time caused much astonishment. The Christmas quarter's rent was now due, and not being forthcoming, Mr. Meller, the agent of the property, distrained on Taylor's furniture, a great portion of which was sold. From this time the shop remained closed; and during this period it would appear that Taylor made application to Mr. Meller for £50 as compensation for the death of his child, strengthened probably from the fact of the jury having censured Mr. Meller, junior and the clerk, for neglect in not attending to the boiler when first requested by Taylor. The application on Taylor's part was not entertained by Mr. Meller, senior, and Taylor refused to give up possession, though an offer was made to forego the rent. A second distraint on the 30th of April followed, on which occasion Taylor made a great resistance, but was overpowered, and the remainder of his goods seized and sold. It is said that after these distraints, Taylor and his supposed wife were observed standing nearly all the day looking at each other, insensible of the observations of persons who saw them from the street.

Taylor and his wife next went to Collyhurst, to engage a house, but, from inquiries, the landlord refused to let it them, and they

then returned to Strangeways, where they kept in such seclusion that little could be gleaned of their proceedings within side, or whether they must not have slept out of the premises.

We now proceed to describe the offices of Mr. Meller, at St. James's-chambers, South King-street, an engraving of the exterior of which we give on page 536. Mr. Meller's office is on the second floor, and on the same floor are two rooms occupied by Mr. Frederick Andrew, solicitor. The stairs leading to the offices are wide; and there are four sets of steps numbering twenty-four in all, and four small landings, of which the uppermost is the landing to Mr. Meller's office on the second floor.

On the morning of May 16th, Mr. Meller, jun., arrived there at ten minutes after nine, and shortly after Taylor and his wife called and asked for Mr. Meller who had not arrived. They seated themselves in the ante-room, into which the door opens. Mr. Meller soon arrived, and, whilst accosting them, Taylor attacked him, forcing him on to the landing, where, it appears, he was first stabbed, as there were here but a few spots of blood. Mrs. Taylor immediately after this presented a loaded pistol at Mr. Meller, jun., thus preventing him from giving any assistance to his father. It is stated that it is probable she would have shot Mr. Meller's son had not a peculiar construction of the revolver prevented her pulling the trigger. In the meantime, Taylor had succeeded in stabbing Mr. Meller. Drops of blood were found upon the six steps leading to the next landing below, and there Mr. Meller appears to have stumbled against the baluster-rail, his blood trickling down the rail and dripping on to the ground-floor. Down eight more steps he stumbled, and then on the first-floor landing, where he was found by Mr. Leatherbrow and his porter, Hooley.

The shooting of Hooley, the remarks accompanying the arrest, and the apprehension of both prisoners, with all these our readers are familiar.

Our next illustration takes us back to the house of the prisoner, Taylor, in Strangeways. When the detectives—Bateman and Watson—entered the house they were prepared to find something of a dreadful nature, but when they came to the room where the three little dead children lay as though placidly sleeping side by side, they were quite overcome and burst into tears. Each child had been washed and dressed, and lay, the very picture of innocence and beauty, but in the sleep of death. The children had white night-dresses on them; round the waist of each was a black sash, and a bit of black ribbon was tied round the wrists and neck. The girls' hair, dark brown, curl naturally, but had been combed with unusual care. The hair of the little boy was lighter than that of his sisters, and it had been combed after death into tufts on the centre of the head. The bodies lay on a bit of carpeting, the only fragment in the house. The room in which the unfortunate children were found is on the left-hand landing, a few steps below the first-floor.

But we must now hasten over this lamentable and heart-rending scene.

The three children were interred at Harpurhey cemetery on the Monday following, Mr. B. Lee having raised a sum by public subscription sufficient not only to cover the expenses of the funeral, but also to purchase a grave and to erect a tablet tomb, with a suitable inscription. At Harpurhey the crowd was immense, and some delay occurred before the gates could be cleared to allow the hearse to pass in. The high ground in the Queen's-park was also crowded, as will be seen from our illustration on page 537. The funeral service was read by the Rev. J. L. Figgins, incumbent of St. Clement's. There was considerable difficulty in keeping the people back while the service was being performed, owing to the anxiety to see the coffins of the deceased children.

The day following the remains of Mr. Evan Meller, were conveyed from the house in Almondbury-place, Cornbrook, to the parish church at Chorlton-cum-Hardy, where the deceased's wife lies buried. The funeral was strictly private, and none but family and immediate relatives and friends of the deceased were invited. Several hundred persons had assembled in the churchyard and along the road taken by the cortege. The coffin plate and the tombstone merely recorded the age of the deceased and the date of his death, no reference being made to the foul tragedy.

EXAMINATION OF THE PRISONERS.

On the same day of the burial of the children the examination of W. R. Taylor and M. A. Taylor, his wife, charged with the murder of Evan Meller, was taken before a very full bench of magistrates at Manchester. The prisoners were called to the dock at half-past ten. The male prisoner stood on the left, facing the bench; his wife on the right side. They both appeared cool and collected. The male prisoner is of a brown complexion, and a close examination of his face, his restless eye and compressed lips, gave indications of considerable emotion, which he appeared to be struggling to repress. His dark beard gave him the appearance of being a foreigner. The female prisoner was pale, but the study of her face gave less indication of feeling than was traceable in her husband's. Her heart seemed to beat violently for a moment. The female prisoner wore a black velvet hat with feather, and a lace fall, a bead collar, brown mantle, and black kid gloves.

On our front page we give an illustration of the prisoners as they appeared in the dock of the Manchester Police-court, and the particulars of their examination we gave in our last.

The prisoners Taylor and his wife were brought up on remand on Monday morning on the charge of having murdered Mr. Meller and their three children.

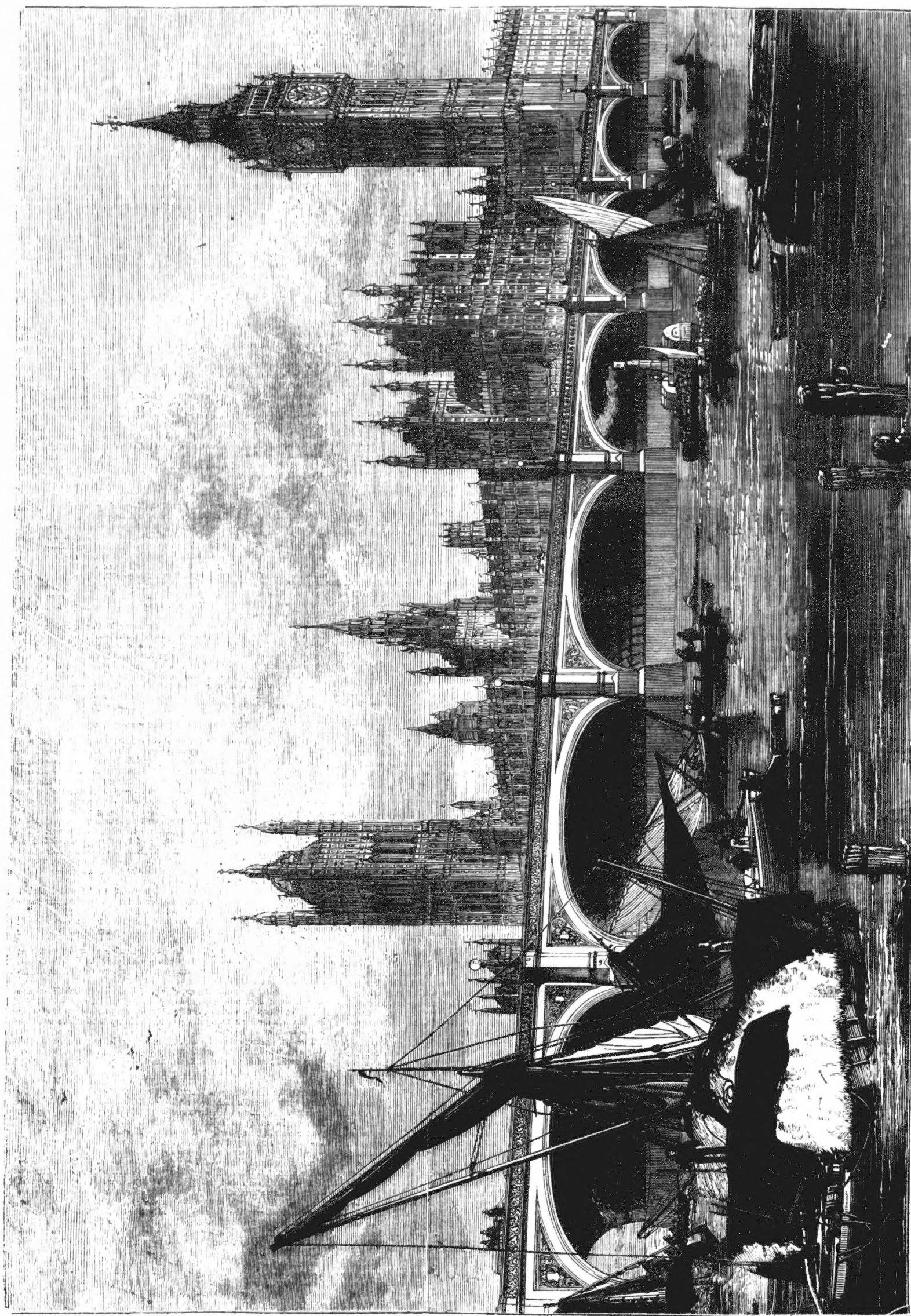
The female prisoner exhibited signs of having passed an unquiet week, as if she now fully felt the awful position in which she stands. Taylor has lost his haggard appearance, and looks, therefore, much more lively.

Mr. Austin, assistant town clerk, appeared on behalf of the prosecution; Mr. Pope appeared on behalf of the prisoners.

The evidence bore almost entirely upon the circumstances attending the seizure for rent, and threw no light upon the facts relative to the murder of the children.

The prisoners were further remanded. The medical men and chemists who have made the analyses have given their evidence which will be fully reported in our next edition.

STRANGE ATTACK IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.—A strange occurrence took place in the train which left Paris for Rouen the other evening. A young tradesman residing at Caen entered a carriage at Mantes, in which an individual of about forty-five years of age, a young man, and a young woman were already seated, and after a few words exchanged with his fellow-travellers, fell asleep. He was shortly after awakened by a sharp pain in the neck from a stab given him by the man of forty-five, who had his arm raised to strike a second time. The young tradesman, with the assistance of the other man and the young woman, secured the man, and attempted to alarm the guard, but their efforts were for a long time fruitless. The unpleasant situation lasted for a considerable time, the wounded man becoming gradually weaker from loss of blood, and the young man and the girl fearing to be left alone with the assailant. At length the train stopped, and assistance was obtained. The man turned out to be a native of the Grisons, in Switzerland, under whose care the young woman, also a native of Switzerland, was on her way to New York, to be married to a Swiss settled there. The two young men having entered into conversation with his charge, who is of remarkable beauty, excited in him such an ungovernable fit of anger that in a moment of temporary insanity he seized a penknife, which the young tradesman had left on the seat after paring his nails, and made the attack. Happily the wound inflicted is not of a very serious nature.—*Gabgnani.*



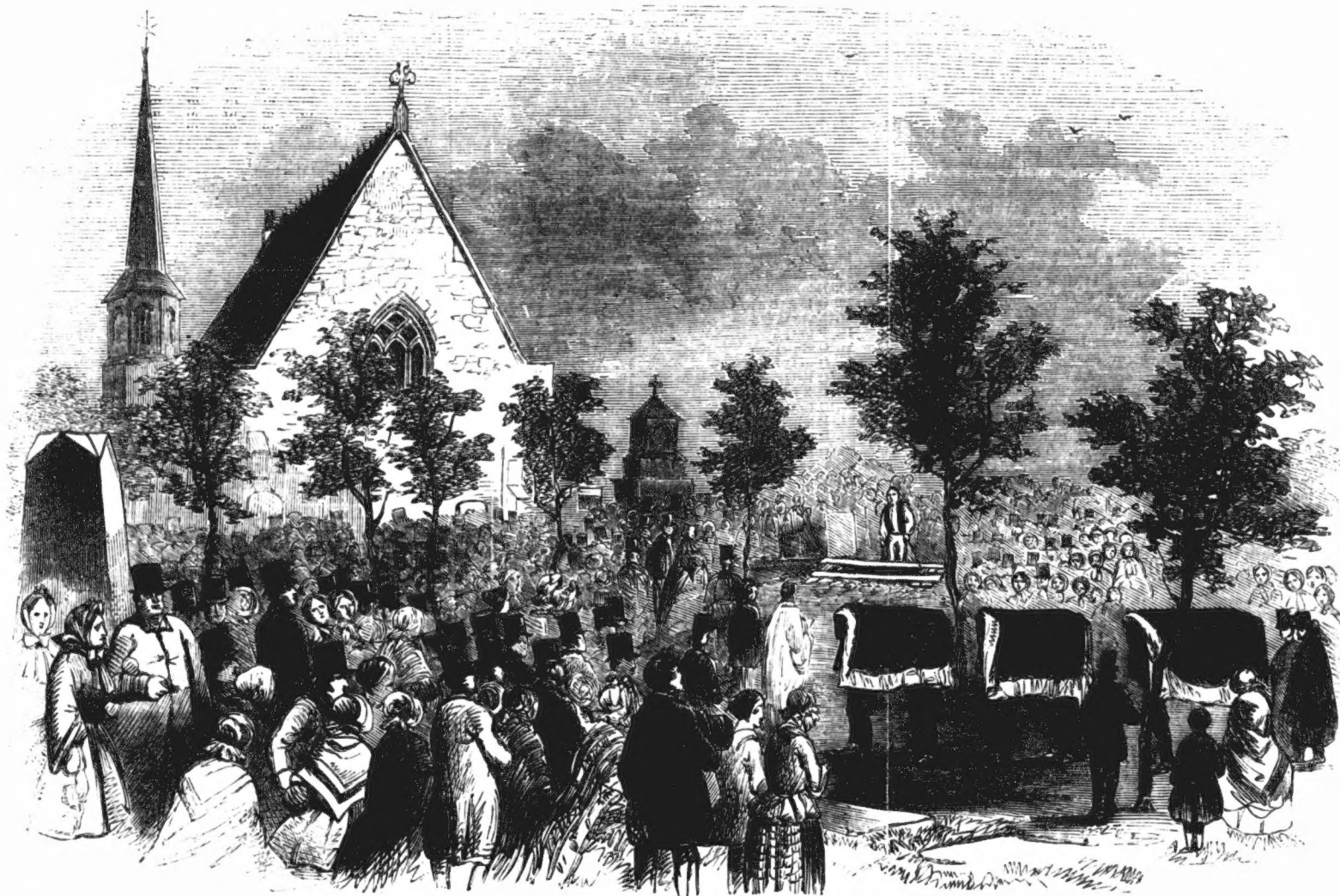
THE NEW IRON BRIDGE AT WESTMINSTER, OPENED MAY 24, 1862.



MR. MELLER'S OFFICES, SOUTH KING STREET.



TAYLOR'S HOUSE, STRANGWAYS.



THE MANCHESTER TRAGEDY.—FUNERAL OF THE THREE CHILDREN AT HARPURHEY CEMETERY. SKETCHED BY OUR OWN ARTIST.

(On Monday, the 19th instant.)

THE NEW IRON BRIDGE AT WESTMINSTER, OPENED MAY 24, 1862.

Public Amusements.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The composition prepared by Signor Verdi for the opening of the International Exhibition was performed on Saturday evening at her Majesty's Theatre, after the opera—the "Barbiere"—was over. This composition, or *cantata*, could hardly have been brought before the public under such favourable circumstances as those of Saturday, even if the commissioners of the Great Exhibition had applied it to its intended purpose. A great portion of it is a solo, and this would have been heard to great disadvantage in so large a building as that of the Exhibition. At her Majesty's Theatre, however, the solo was the most attractive part of the whole *cantata*. The efficiency of the chorus was splendid, reinforced, as it was, by 250 extra voices from the Vocal Association. The solos were given by Mlle Titien. The whole strength of the company was employed to do honour to the composer's efforts, and all the artists—Signor Giuglini, Mr. Santley, the Sisters Marchisio, Mlle. Trebelli—in short, every artist engaged, sang in the chorus, sinking all considerations of personal vanity to assist in performing Signor Verdi's work. The success, with a crowded audience, fully justified these exertions. Mlle. Titien was in magnificent voice, and the whole performance was encored enthusiastically. Signor Verdi was repeatedly called forward to receive the rapturous applause of the excited audience.

PRINCESS'S.—After an absence of three years, and with rather a short announcement, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean made their appearance at this theatre on Saturday evening in the historic drama of "Louis the Eleventh." The audience was a most brilliant and fashionable one, and the reception that both artists received was something enormous. For some minutes the acting of the play was entirely stopped by the enthusiastic welcome given to Mr. Kean on his entry in the second act, and whether it was owing to the hearty reception or not, most certainly he never gave a finer delineation of the hypocritical, remorseless, crafty, and treacherous French monarch than on Saturday evening. The applause elicited was tremendous, and certainly never as it better deserved. Mrs. Charles Kean sustained the little part of *Martha*, the miller's wife, but, with the true taste of an artist, she made the part stand so nobly out, that in her hands it became, after *Louis*, one of the most prominent characters in the play. Miss Chapman, as the *Luphin*, and Miss N. Chapman as *Marie*, both acted with great taste and excellence. The *Duc de Nemours* was admirably sustained by Mr. Cathcart, who certainly deserved all the applause the excellence of his acting evoked. The other parts in the play were well supported by Messrs. Meadows, Shore, Basil Potter, and Raymond. At the fall of the curtain the applause seemed longer and louder than in the early part of the evening.

ST. JAMES'S.—Mr. and Mrs. Wigan have returned to this theatre for a short engagement, and on Monday night they reappeared in Mr. Selby's adaptation of the "Poor Nobleman." They appear to be as forcible as ever, and were cordially welcomed on their reappearance. The last new extravaganza of "Prince Amabel" continues its successful career, and it well deserves the popularity it has achieved.

ADELPHI.—On Monday night the performances at this theatre were so far changed that "The Octoroon" was revived, as we suppose, to give the shilling visitors to the International Exhibition from the provinces and the Continent an opportunity of seeing this popular drama. "The Colleen Bawn" is also announced as in preparation as if it were a new drama. The only alteration in the cast of "The Octoroon" is, that Mrs. Billington continues to take the place of Mrs. Bonicant in *Zoe*, the slave. The first piece, "Dot," retains its place in the bills, and will probably continue to be the introductory drama of the evening.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A fruit and flower show was held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, the flowers being, as usual, arranged down each side of the nave. It would be impossible to enumerate all the varieties of plants exhibited, but among the most beautiful were the delicate lined *Camellias*, the sparkling *Chorizanthes*, and the elegant *transcendents*. There were two or three good specimens of the curious *acrophylloids* and of the *aplolepis*, which, in all but its exquisite hue, seems to have a great resemblance to the thistle; there were many varieties. There was a constant crowd round the earth—and one flower in particular of the most delicate hue—something between white and faint yellow, was very warmly praised. The orchids in all their quaint fantastic shapes were very well represented, and some of the specimens were of great beauty. In *begonias* and other fine foliaged and variegated plants the show was particularly rich. There was no more admirable contrast to the great masses of the azaleas than the delicate, wax-like flowers of the Cape heaths, of which almost every variety was shown; and in the very large show of roses the most admired, perhaps, was the deep-hued *Lord Raglan*. Of *pelargoniums*, *calceolarias*, and *cinerarias* there was also a very fair show. It was very interesting to observe the effect of the new roof over the orchestra, which is now complete. Its effect was tried for the first time on Saturday, and the results obtained proved the justice of the calculations in accordance with which it has been designed. Never before in the Crystal Palace was music heard to so much advantage.

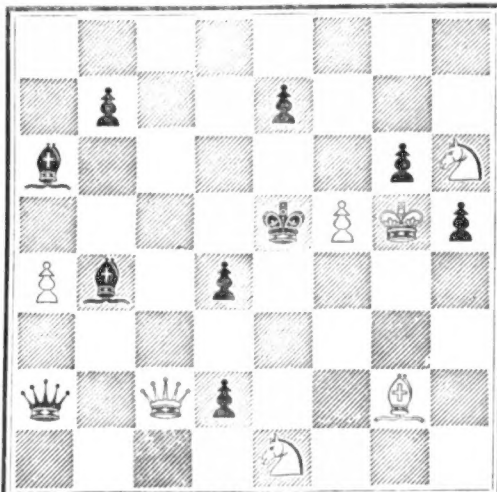
LONDON EXHIBITION OF DOGS.—The "London Exhibition of Fancy and other Dogs," which was opened on Monday morning for a private view, bids fair to be as successful as its predecessor of last year. The show of dogs is certainly not inferior, and we may safely anticipate a large influx of foreign visitors, who will be anxious to see how far the bull dog of English reality corresponds with the "boule-dogue" of French romance. The Holborn Horse Repository has been selected as the scene for this display, and the cages and cages around its walls are filled by almost every variety of the canine race.

THE MIDDLE LEVEL INUNDATIONS.—The tides began to increase on Sunday, and the authorities were busily engaged in strengthening the several banks in the neighbourhood, as they will continue to increase till this day (Saturday), when higher tides are anticipated than even the last "springs." The statement as to the dangerous state of the Torrington bank turns out to be correct, and workmen have been engaged upon it. All the barges have at length been ordered from the neighbourhood of the dams that are in course of construction. About 200 men are at work at the sluice. The principal work being done is the coffer-dam, where piles about forty-five feet long are being driven, commencing at both sides of the cut. If no unlooked-for catastrophe occurs to this work, and if the proceedings are pushed on with alacrity, it is likely that this coffer-dam may be completed in a fortnight. The earth-dam lower down the cut, and upon which so much reliance was placed, has been positively abandoned, by the orders of the engineers. Several thousand sacks of shingle have been thrown in, but the scour carries this away almost as easily as the earth. It is intended to try if stone can resist the power of the tides, and two thousand tons of stone have been ordered from Yorkshire. The new sacks are nearly all used, and another order has been given for twelve thousand sacks, to be supplied immediately. Under the present arrangements, however, it is not believed that much progress will be made. It is estimated that the extent of land under water is from eight to ten thousand acres. The loss which the farmers have sustained by the destruction of their crops is estimated at £150,000. An extra force of police has been embodied to protect property, several robberies having been committed by persons in boats, who have gone to the deserted farmhouses, which are partly under water, and taken away articles. Thousands of persons have visited the scene of the catastrophe.

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 24.—By T. G.

Black.

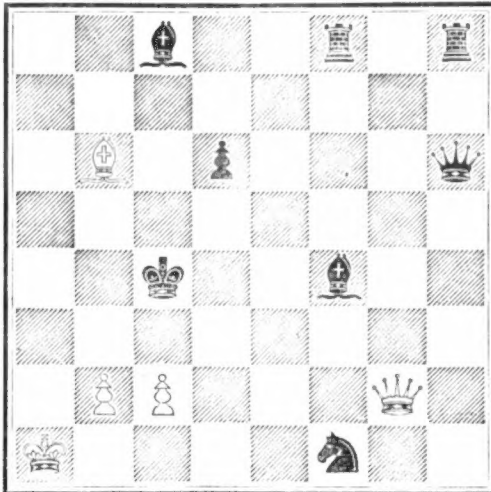


White.

White to move and mate in four moves.

PROBLEM No. 27.—By D'ORVILLE.

Black.



White.

White to move and mate in four moves.

GAME BETWEEN MR. KEMP AND AN AMATEUR.
Allier Gambit.

- | White. | Black. |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. P to K 4 | 1. P to K 4 |
| 2. P to K B 4 | 2. P takes P |
| 3. Kt to K B 3 | 3. P to K Kt 4 |
| 4. P to K R 4 | 4. P to K Kt 5 |
| 5. Kt to K 5 | 5. P to K R 4 |
| 6. B to Q B 4 | 6. R to K R 2 |
| 7. Kt takes B P | 7. R takes Kt |
| 8. B takes R (ch) | 8. K takes B |
| 9. Castles | 9. B to K R 3 |
| 10. P to Q 4 | 10. Q takes R P |
| 11. B takes B P | 11. B takes B |
| 12. R takes B (ch) | 12. K to K sq |
| 13. Q to K B sq | 13. Q K 2 |
| 14. Kt to Q B 3 | 14. P to Q B 3 |
| 15. P to Q 5 | 15. P to Q 3 |
| 16. Q R to K sq | 16. Q Kt to Q 2 |
| 17. Q to Q B 4 | 17. Kt to K 4 |
| 18. Q to Q Kt 3 | 18. Kt to K B 3 |
| 19. Q R to B sq | 19. Q Kt to Q 2 |
| 20. Q to Q R 4 | 20. K to Q sq |
| 21. P takes P | 21. P takes P |
| 22. Q to Q R 5 (ch) | 22. K to K sq |
| 23. Q to K Kt 5 | 23. B to Kt 2 (a) |
| 24. R takes Kt | 24. Kt takes R |
| 25. R takes Kt | 25. Q to K 4 (b) |
| 26. Q to Kt 8 (ch) | 26. K to Q 2 |
| 27. R to B 7 (ch) | 27. K to K 3 |

Mate in two moves.

- (a) The Knight cannot be rescued.
(b) Immediately fatal, but Black's game could not be saved.

DURYEA'S "MAIZENA."—In the pharmaceutical section of the International Exhibition are many specimens of improved medicaments, and in particular a delicate and nutritious aliment, prepared from Indian corn, and better known as Duryea's "maizena." It is exhibited, and has the recommendation of being perfectly pure. It is now extensively used for custards, creams, and omelettes in the refreshment-rooms of the Exhibition, and in the first clubs and hotels. One of its principal recommendations, however, is that it is extremely economical.

ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT OF A PAUPER FOR DEBT.—A strange case in connection with the law of imprisonment for debt has just occurred in the arrest of a pauper in the Greenwich Union, and the conveyance of him to Maidstone gaol, under a county court process. It appears that the person so arrested had some months since obtained credit from a butcher, who brought an action in the Greenwich County Court for the recovery of the debt, and obtained a verdict in his favour. The order of the Court not having been complied with, the next process was to issue a judgment summons, and although the debtor had become so reduced in circumstances as to seek shelter in the union workhouse, an order was obtained for his commitment to the county gaol for a period of thirty days. The order thus obtained by the inexorable creditor was put in force, and an officer of the county court arrived at the union-house and took the unfortunate creditor to Maidstone gaol, where he is now confined.

Sporting.

RACING FIXTURES.

JUNE.	
Epsom	3
Cartmel	9
Chelmsford	11
Manchester	11
Wye	11
Ascot	17
Beverley	18
Newcastle	24
Hampton	25
Carlisle	26

LATEST BETTING.

THE DERRY.—100 to 50 agst The Marquis; 5 to 1 agst Buckstone; 11 to 1 agst Zetland; 100 to 8 agst Stockwell colt; 100 to 7 agst Caterer; 50 to 1 agst Ensign; 20 to 1 agst Neptunus; 50 to 1 agst Star of the West; 33 to 1 agst Duke Rollo; 40 to 1 agst St Alexis; 40 to 1 agst Argonaut; 50 to 1 agst Norroy; 50 to 1 agst Spite; 50 to 1 agst Lord Burleigh.

AQUATICS.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB.

The opening race of the first-class yachts of this club came off yesterday week, and, as will be seen by the details given below, was attended by an accident which placed in jeopardy the lives of between three and four hundred persons. The entries were as follows:—

Yachts.	Tons.	Owners.
Christabel	48	Mr. H. H. Kennard.
Marina	65	Mr. J. C. Morice.
Phosphorus	50	Mr. W. Turner.
Glance	36	Mr. A. Duncan.
Audax	59	Mr. J. H. Johnson.

The prizes were a very handsome silver and tea and coffee service, of a new and elegant design, by Hancock, value £100, and a second prize, value £40, for the second boat. Course, from Erith to the Nore Light and back, with a time allowance of half a minute per ton. There was considerable interest excited by the race, and it was increased by the reputation of a new boat, the *Phosphorus*, as a fast sailer, while the renown earned by the others made each of them the favourite.

The *Prince of Wales* steamer had been engaged by the club. She left London bridge at a little after ten, with Lord Alfred Paget, the commodore, and the rest of the officers, with a large party. The vessel proceeded to Erith, where the above yachts were found at their stations. At 11h. 50m. a gun was fired for the start, and the *Christabel*, which certainly had a very good position, went away with an extraordinary lead, followed by the *Phosphorus*, *Marina*, *Glance*, and *Audax*. At Gravesend, the *Christabel* was first, *Marina* second, *Audax* third, *Glance* fourth, and *Phosphorus* last. At 2 hours 3 minutes the *Marina* jibed at the light as usual from the southward to the northward, at which time the *Prince of Wales* steamer was dead off her course, at about a hundred yards above the light. Lord Alfred Paget, who was on the paddle-box, had directed the captain of the steamer to take her, as usual, between the Nore Light, when he replied, as it is supposed, with a desire of giving the spectators a better view of the turning, that he would take her in a line with it; and was proceeding to do so when the yacht came down upon him. The owner of the *Marina* luffed as much as he could, and the crew shouted to the steamer. Lord Alfred immediately, from his nautical experience, saw the imminent danger in which all were placed, and called out to the captain of the steamer to turn her astern. An endeavour was made to get her out of the way, but it was too late, and the bowsprit of the *Marina* struck the steamer on the port bow with such force as to open one of her iron plates, stove the timber, and admit a quantity of water. Tow and blankets were immediately resorted to to stop the leakage.

The exact amount of the mischief was not communicated to the ladies on board. By the accident the cross work at the head of the steamer and the decorations were flattened and broken, while the yacht was much damaged; her bowsprit was forced right in, carrying away the bits, windlass, and kevil of the mast. As the *Marina* was unable to proceed any further, she was taken in tow by the steamer to Gravesend, where she was left for repairs. The yachts arrived at Erith in the following times:—

Yachts.	Time.
Christabel	5 41 15
Audax	5 47 45
Phosphorus	5 48 40
Glance	5 52 45

By this the *Christabel* won the first prize, *Glance* second, by two minutes and a half.

The committee of the best yachtsmen on board, headed by Lord Alfred Paget, was promptly held to determine what course should be pursued respecting the *Marina*, when it was resolved to recommend to the club that, besides the prizes given to the two first boats in, a further prize, value £100, be presented to the owner of the *Marina*, who expressed his high sense of the liberal suggestion.

Lord Alfred Paget presented the prizes to the owners of the *Christabel* and *Glance* in the usual way.

On page 533, we give an engraving of the *Marina*.

THE GREAT MATCH BETWEEN CLASPER AND DREWETT.—On Monday this match between Clasper and Drewett for £200 came off on the Tyne, and after a severe contest was won by Clasper.

SCULLERS' MATCH FOR £50.—A scullers' match for the above amount (£25 a side) came off on Monday last. The competitors were Charles Constable, of Lambeth, and William Stratford, of the same place, the former a waterman, and the latter a landsman. The distance was Putney to Barnes, and the men came to the post in excellent fettle. Stratford having won the toss took the Middlesex side, and they were soon off. Constable obtained a trifling lead at starting, but Stratford collared him directly, and after they had rowed a hundred yards back to lead, and the result was never afterwards in doubt. Constable throughout rowed a plucky stern, but it was evident that he was completely overmatched by Stratford winning easily.

CRICKET.

The Kent beat the Surrey Colts at the recent match by 93 runs, the score being—Surrey, 38 and 53; Kent, 74 and 110. Finch's wicket-keeping during the second innings of Kent, and Jolly's during the first, was highly commendable, as was also the bowling of Wells and Hagger, and the long-stopping of Woodhams. Their best bats appear to be Finch, Ladbury, Theobald, and Smith. Surrey, also, by "trotting out" its colts, has discovered two or three men who will be considerable acquisitions to its present County Eleven. Nightingale, Batchelor, and Jupp exhibited considerable ability with the bat. The latter played his fine innings of 27 without giving a chance. In bowling and fielding they are certainly inferior to their adversaries; though in the former, Cawley, the Humphreys, and Batchelor, are youths of promise. Dryland and Nightingale both kept wicket well.

MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND V. UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—This match was brought to a conclusion on Friday, from the previous day, when the score stood, M.C.C., 96, and Oxford, 78; M.C.C. had commenced their second innings, and left off with 27 runs for the loss of one wicket (Mr. Mitchell's). Mr. Trail and Grandy being not out, the former with 13 to his name. Upon the resumption of the game on Friday morning Mr. Trail raised a figures to 26, Mr. Pepps marked 14, and Mr. V. E. Walker 11; total of the innings, 82. Oxford had now 101 to go in against, but failed to reach it by 35 runs, consequently the M.C.C. were victorious by that number. The play was good on both sides.

Law and Police.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE POSSONET.—THE PROFESSIONAL AND GENERAL LOAN AND DISCOUNT COMPANY.—This was a first sitting. The bankrupt, Thomas Possonet, is described as a commander in the Royal Navy, of Wansborough. The adjudication was on his own petition. His statement of account shows liabilities of about £1,800, almost entirely in connection with the company above named. He thus states the cause of his failure:—"The reason I am unable to meet my engagements is on account of certain liabilities incurred by me in respect of various bills of exchange to which I am a party, as drawer, acceptor, or endorser, and which were so drawn, accepted, or endorsed by me for and on behalf of the Professional and General Loan and Discount Company (limited), of which I was one of the managing directors." No assignee was chosen, and the next meeting was appointed for the 26th of June.

POLICE COURTS.

GUILDHALL.

WATCH ROBBERY.—John Manning was charged with the following watch robbery.—Edward Paget said: About half-past six o'clock in the evening I was standing among a number of persons attracted by a man with a basket of groundnuts and a pair of young owls, when I found a pressure at my waistcoat pocket, turned round sharply, and said to the prisoner, "What are you doing?" and before he had time to reply, I looked down and saw my watch-chain hanging loose, and my watch gone. I then saw the prisoner handing something to another man, who quickly disappeared, and at the same instant I saw the handle of my watch fall from the prisoner's hand. He coolly walked away as if nothing had happened, but I followed and gave him into custody. Robert Lilley, 344, said: When the prosecutor charged the prisoner with stealing his watch, he appeared very much surprised, and said, "It was a mistake altogether." He gave a false address. The prisoner reserved his defence, and was fully committed for trial.

THE WEST LONDON UNION.—Margaret Long, who has been some time in the West London Union, and whose children are at the Harewell School, was charged with deserting her children. Beckett, the relieving officer, said that a van was hired on the previous day for the purpose of taking the female paupers to the union to see their children at the schools at Harewell. Witness had charge of the women to prevent them from getting drunk. When he got back, however, the prisoner was missing, and he did not return till about three hours after. He then gave her into custody for deserting her children. Alderman Copeland expressed his astonishment at the woman being given into custody under such circumstances, and asked if she was locked up. She stated that she had been locked up in the cell and kept there all night. The magistrate said this was most shameful and disgraceful, and the conduct of Beckett should be properly represented to the Poor Law Board. The charge was dismissed at once.

SHOPLIFTING.—Two elegantly-dressed young women, who gave their names as Jane Wood and Rebecca Isaac, but who refused their address, were charged with stealing twelve shawls and three mantles, value £14, from the shop of Messrs. Morgan and Scott, of Bishopsgate-street. The prisoners went into the shop to look at some shawls, and contrived to conceal under their ample cloaks and crinolines the whole of the above property. When accused of the theft the things were dropped from their dresses. The prisoner implored his worship to deal with them summarily, but he said it was too serious an offence for that, and committed them to Newgate for trial. They were removed shrieking from the bar.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT OF A MOTHER TO STRANGLE HER SON.—Ann Talling, a charwoman, living at 10, Robin Hood-court, Shoe-lane, was placed at the bar before Alderman J. Clarke Lawrence, charged with the following cruelty to her child. Mr. Joseph Spier said, I am staying at a boarding-house at 20, Thavies-lane. I was sitting in the supper room when a lady came in and said there was a woman ill-using her children in one of the houses at the back, and threatening to throw them out of the window. I went into the back yard and heard a child crying, and calling out, "Mother, don't." I called to her to refrain from ill-treating them, and then went out for a policeman and accompanied the officer to 10, Robin Hood-court. On going up-stairs the policeman entered the room, but on my attempting to follow him the man who keeps the house objected to my going in. I went into the room, however, and saw the little boy that had been ill-used. He was crying bitterly, and his mother called him a young villain, and said he was a bad boy. He said his mother had been beating him, and had placed her hands on his neck and on the upper part of his chest and throat. We saw a great many bruises and scratches. At the station he said his mother had threatened to smother him. Prisoner said he was a very bad, wicked boy, staying out at night, and not going to school. Hastings, 235, said when he went into the prisoner's room he found the boy with nothing on but his shirt. He said his mother had been trying to strangle him. The prisoner said he was a very bad boy, and she would be his mother. Prisoner said her husband was in Holloway prison. She could do no good with the boy, and she only took hold of him by his necktie and shook him. Sergeant Fenning said, about two months ago, when the prisoner lived in Elliott-court, in the Old Bailey, he found the boy in the most wretched condition, and marks of violence were then upon his person. Her landlady gave her a very bad character, particularly with regard to her treatment of her children. Edward John Talling, a lad about eight or nine years of age, said he was playing about the court until twelve o'clock on Saturday night. His mother would not give him any supper, and he then went to bed. He was afterwards awake by his mother dragging him out of bed, and seizing him by the throat. She then dragged him up and down the place, and kicked him down-stairs several times. She was always knocking him about, and frequently for nothing at all. He seldom had enough to eat, and sometimes she kept him without food for a whole day, even when there was plenty in the house. Prisoner: You lying little villain. The boy said his mother had 2s. and two quarter leaves a week from the union. He sometimes went home at eight o'clock in the evening. Prisoner said he would not go to school, and only last week he threw the poker and other things at the baby. He called her a thief, and broke the door open with the poker, because she would not let him take 3d. to school. He was a very bad, wicked boy, and since his father had been away he had repeatedly called her a thief. The prisoner was remanded.

BOW STREET.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH OF A FEMALE.—John Lemon was charged on suspicion of raising the death of Ann Gelding, a married woman, with whom he had for some years cohabited, in White Hart-street, Drury-lane. On the morning of Friday week, about a quarter-past eleven, the prisoner called at Mr. Lovett's, surgeon, of Clare-street, and said his wife had been poisoned. Mr. Lovett's assistant went to the house, and the woman died while he was in the room, with all the symptoms of poisoning. A wound had been inflicted on her temple by some sharp instrument. The prisoner produced a bottle containing cyanide of potassium, which he said he had taken from his wife's bed. It was a poison, and used for electro-plating (an utterer of false coin); that he and the woman had had a fight, in which they both fell heavily on the floor; and that the deceased's head was wounded by falling against a chair. The prisoner was remanded for a post-mortem examination.

THE MENDICITY OFFICE AND THE BEGGAR.—William Newman, an elderly man, dressed in threadbare clothes, but with scrupulous neatness, and wearing a white apron, girded round him under his coat, was brought before Mr. Henry on a charge of begging. Horsford, jun., the officer of the Mendicity Society, stated that at about half-past ten o'clock on Monday morning he saw the prisoner in Whitehall, walking beside a gentleman. He heard the prisoner say to the gentleman, "Pray be kind enough to assist me." Witness passed at the moment he said so. Witness followed the prisoner into Northumberland-street, where he addressed several gentlemen in the same manner. Afterwards the prisoner, still watched by witness, crossed the Strand into Northumberland-street, where he addressed another gentleman, saying that he was in great distress, and wanted to get his clothes out of pawn. The gentleman gave him twopenny. I then said I should take him in custody for begging. He then produced a comb from the sleeve of his coat, and said he had sold one to the gentleman for twopenny. He said he was not begging at all, but was on his way to buy some combs for a stock. Witness took him into custody. On being searched, nothing was found on him but some combs and the twopenny the gentleman had given him. Witness knew the prisoner very well. He had been twice convicted of begging. His habit was to walk beside gentlemen, talking to them as he walked along, so that no one at a little distance would perceive that he was addressing them. The prisoner: You have made a mistake. I am a poor man nearly blind, and it is hard that I should not be allowed to get an honest living. Horsford: I believe he is nearly blind, though at times he can see pretty well. Mr. Henry to the prisoner: Horsford heard you begging. The prisoner: Of course his word will be taken before mine. It is quite false. Mr. Henry: What object could he have in stating a falsehood? The prisoner: I'll tell you, sir. When they take a poor man in custody they will swear black is white, and white is no colour at all, to get him convicted. Mr. Henry: I see no reason to doubt that he is telling the truth. Horsford, are you sure you heard all that occurred? Was there nothing about selling a comb? Horsford said he was quite sure, and repeated his former account of what was said. The prisoner: Oh, Horsford! Where do you

expect me to go to? (A laugh.) Mr. Henry: I believe his statement, and as you have been convicted twice before, I shall now send you to prison for a month.

CLERKENWELL.

PAYING DEAR FOR A RING.—William Cole, aged twenty-four, who described himself as a servant at Dublin, was charged before Mr. Barker with riding in a second-class carriage on the North Eastern and Great Northern Railway, from Newcastle to London, without having previously paid his fare, and with intent to avoid payment thereof at the parish of St. Pancras. The prisoner said he had lost his ticket, having paid for one at Newcastle. Ransley, one of the detectives of the company, said that whilst the prisoner was detained at King's-cross he said to him "It is a bad job you have lost your ticket." He said "It is no use my telling a lie, I never had one. I got into the carriage at Newcastle." Mr. Barker ordered the defendant to pay the fine of 40s., or in default one month's imprisonment in the House of Correction.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.

ROBBING A JEWELLER.—Robert Scott, described as a clerk, was charged with stealing two gold rings from the shop of a jeweller, 10, Oxford-street. The prisoner went into the shop, asked to look at some pins, and after examining two of them, he went out, upon pretence of pointing to another pin in the window. The prosecutor, however, saw that he had got the other pins in his hand, and followed him. He ran away at full speed, but after a long chase, was taken into custody, and one of the pins was found near the place where he was secured. The prisoner was remanded.

THE HYDE-PARK ORATOR AGAIN.—Samuel Owen, professor of music, 13, Shaftesbury-place, Aldersgate-street, and who is well known as the Hyde-park Orator, was charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with begging in Hyde-park on Sunday last, and William Wilkinson, of 7, Colville-place, Fitzroy-square, glass decorator, was also charged with attempting to rescue Owen from custody. William was 5, and said: At half-past three o'clock on Sunday afternoon I was in Hyde-park, and saw Owen standing on one of the seats opposite Grosvenor-gate. He had a large number of persons around him at the time, and said, "I name you as the Vigilance Committee to protect me against the police, the same as they do in San Francisco, and to act the same as you did last Sunday." After a long speech, abusing the Queen, the Parliament, and talking about his mission being to impeach the Ministry, his speech lasting two hours, he said, "The accords of police are here to prevent me taking money, which I stand very much in need of, being in a starving condition; and as an advocate of the poor against the aristocrats and the capitalists, their employers—the police and the ministers who sit on the bench at Marlborough-street, Mr. Tyrwhitt; was there any applause?" (Laughter.) Savage: He then had something given to him, and holding it up, said: "Shall I give it to the police or put it in my own pocket?" After seeing him take some more money I took him into custody; and on the way to the station we were followed by a very great crowd, in front, Owen's "Vigilance Committee," and the persons set up a yell, and attempted to rescue him by knocking the witness down, &c., and trying to get the prisoner from our custody. It took five constables to get the prisoner to the station, he telling the crowd to obey no law, which he never intended to, except the law of God. I searched him at the station, and found elevenpence in copper in his pocket, and a shilling in a portemonnaie. The prisoner was in custody here about eighteen months ago. Charles Fraser, sergeant, 11 A, said: I saw Owen get on a seat and commence speaking, and he was told that if he took any money he would be taken before the Marlborough-street police magistrate. Owen spoke for two hours and a half. Saw one offer him a penny, and he put out his hand and he received it. I saw prisoner receive several coins afterwards, and he kept them in his pocket, while he was talking in a loud voice, and the station I heard Wilkinson call out to the top of his voice, "Which will be a rescuer?" and some one replied to it, and a crowd rushed up. I was pushed against the railings, and saw Wilkinson force himself between Owen and the constable, which caused them both to fall on their knees. I followed Wilkinson, and he was stopped by another constable. Wilkinson said, "It is a shame that Owen should be taken when he is doing good for the country, and that I should be taken up for taking his part." Wilkinson: Now what you ashamed of yourself. Why, it's all false lies (laughter). What am I charged with? Mr. Tyrwhitt: With attempting to rescue the witness. Wilkinson: Why, I am here personally myself. Owen: Although I spoke of a Vigilance Committee, it had nothing to do with the police. I've got several witnesses. I did refer to the outrage committed on my youth, but the court, and used strong expressions to punish yourself. Mr. Tyrwhitt: I stopped the more you abuse people the more money you get; no one cares about your abuse here. You are not in Hyde-park now. (Mr. Owen had assumed a stentorian tone of voice.) Owen: Last week a Bible-reader tried to put me down, but was defeated and left the park. I merely wanted a Vigilance Committee to preserve the peace. Mr. Tyrwhitt: It is only right that I should say that I sit here to hear cases when they come before me. Owen: I say the police are more inclined to favour disorder. Mr. Tyrwhitt: Keep to the question. Owen: I never begged, but I made up my mind that if persons gave me money I would keep it (laughter). It may be sport to some. Mr. Tyrwhitt: The pleasure of hearing you is great (laughter). I can assure you, Owen: I always obey the law, knowing how many enemies I have. I teach pure Christianity. I am only fulfilling my duty to the poor who are oppressed. All I ever hoped to achieve was by the diffusion of light—education. After Owen had delivered a long harangue, being a repetition of his discourse of the previous day, the Chief Clerk said all he was stating was nothing. A witness was then called for the defence, who said he did not hear Owen say that he was starving; and denials were given by the witnesses to all the affirmatives of the police. A person from Sheffield said he happened to be passing, and heard the prisoner lecturing, and telling the people to keep order. He never heard him ask for money. A young man gave Mr. Owen a penny, and then Mr. Owen asked for the young man's name. He then heard a shout and a clap, and then the police rushed at a young man (Wilkinson), and supposed he had shouted. Mr. Tyrwhitt questioned whether if Wilkinson had done what he said with the intention of creating a disturbance, and he should dismiss him, the part he took being only slight. It was the duty of a magistrate to see the peace kept, and it should be. There was one thing that could not be overlooked—his appointing persons his Vigilance Committee against the police to act as he did on the previous Sunday. It meant to protect him against being arrested. Suppose there had been a disturbance, and the Vigilance Committee had acted against the police. With regard to the question of begging, he would not then decide. He should require two bails in £25 each, for six months. The question of begging should be left open.

CARRIAGE ROBBERY.—A lad, named Magrath, was charged as follows:—William Payne, coachman to Miss Sullivan, of Fozzard, Hampstead, deposed that on Saturday last he was waiting with the carriage in Pall-mall, when he saw the prisoner put his hand through the window of the carriage and take out a box containing his open-glass, and while he was getting the box the prisoner ran off. Miss Magrath Sullivan identified the box and open-glass, of the value of £3, as her property. A former conviction having been proved against the prisoner, he was remanded.

MARYLEBONE.

ASSAULT ON A LICENSED VICTUALLER.—William Jennings, a compositor, was charged with an assault on Mr. John Sparkes, landlord of the Queen's Arms, Portland Town. The evidence was that, on Saturday night last, defendant's conduct at the house was such as to cause much disturbance, and on his being desired to quit, he refused to do so. He was ultimately ejected, and he then struck complainant on the head with a stick. He was nearly stunned thereby, and he (prisoner) was about to repeat the blow, but was prevented from doing so by a person who seized hold of his arm. Defendant was remanded, with liberty for him to give bail if he could procure it.

WORKSHIP STREET.

ANOTHER GAROTTE ROBBERY.—A thick-set young man, who gave the name of George Kerr, was charged before Mr. Leigh with being concerned in violently assaulting and robbing Mr. Joseph Price, an agent, residing at Islington. This outrage was committed on the 10th inst., but the prosecutor has hitherto been unable to appear and give evidence in consequence of the injuries inflicted on him. He is an elderly person, and appeared to have suffered considerably. His statement now was this:—I reside in Elder-walk, Islington, and on the morning of the 10th inst. I was returning home through Commercial-street, Whitechapel, when a young man came up, and forced his conversation. He was on my right side. Almost immediately the prisoner joined us on the other side, and seized hold of my arm, at the same instant saying "Come on." A man's hands then grasped my throat from behind with such force that I was nearly strangled, but I distinctly felt that, right and left, others were holding, but suddenly the person behind me let go, and all three ran away. I presume that they heard footstepers approaching, as when I feebly called out "Police," one of the sergeants came to my assistance directly. Fortunately they only found in the pockets mentioned some loose silver, and a purse containing special papers; but I have been very ill since, and most positively swear to the prisoner as being one of the three men who attacked me. Prisoner: Were you not drunk? Prosecutor: Certainly not. Prisoner: You were. Police-sergeant (11 H): On the morning in question, after twelve o'clock, while on duty near Commercial-street, I saw the prisoner and two others in company with a woman. They

turned into a small thoroughfare, just before they came to a cross-way at the same instant I heard a peculiar cry of "Police." A man who immediately said, "That is the man who had his hand in my left-hand pocket." Prisoner replied, "I know nothing about it," but I afterwards picked up a purse containing papers, which Mr. Price identified as his. That was close to the spot where I took the prisoner into custody. On our return to the station we were pelted with brick-bats by some persons. I have been unable to apprehend either of the others concerned. Sergeant Brett, 29 B, I was present at the Middlesex Sessions in February, 1859, when the prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for felony. The prisoner, on hearing this, and that other convictions could be proved against him, said, "I am innocent, but will plead Guilty, rather than go for trial." Mr. Leigh observed that he could not so port with an offender of this stamp, and that it had become an absolute necessity to put a stop, by severe measures, to the fearful outrages now continually being perpetrated. Fully committed for trial.

ANOTHER FUGITIVE, ASSAULT BY A HUSBAND ON HIS WIFE.—W. Land, a fancy dealer, 10, 21, Abchurch-lane, 1861, Hoxton, was brought to this court charged with unlawfully wounding his wife by striking her on the head with a hammer. The complainant, apparently a very respectable person, said that she, on the afternoon of Friday week, had occasion to ask her husband for some money, which seemingly annoyed him, as he showed a heap of abuse upon her; to this she made some reply as she left the workshop, upon hearing which he followed her to the street-door, and struck her on the head with a hammer. She lost a large quantity of blood, was obliged to send for a surgeon, and as her husband had previously inflicted a similar injury on the same part with a screwdriver, she felt it imperative upon her to charge him with the assault on this occasion, more particularly he being a drunken character. Would 57 S. deposed to having seen complainant bleeding profusely and also to finding a hammer with blood upon it. Prisoner denied the charge, alleging that he had pushed his wife, who fell and struck her head against the door, but Dr. Griffiths testified that the wound was such a one as would be inflicted with a hammer, and Mr. Leigh thereupon ordered the prisoner to be fully committed for trial, but accepted sureties to the amount of £20.

SOUTHWARK.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY AND FRAUD.—Mr. Charles Williams, of 108, Rotherfield-street, Islington, and until lately carrying on business as a leather factor, in Weston-street, Bermondsey; and Mr. Henry Balch, an accountant, were brought before Mr. Burcham on a warrant, by George Holmes, a detective officer of the M. division, charged with conspiring to defraud Messrs. Barrow and Sons, tanners and leather merchants, Spinning-row, Bermondsey, and others, of various sums of money to a very large extent. Mr. Poland appeared for the prosecution, Mr. Robinson for the prisoner Balch, and Mr. Lilley for Mr. Williams. Mr. Poland, in opening the case, said the prosecutors were extensive merchants in the Spinning-row, Bermondsey, where they had carried on business many years. The prisoner Williams had been in business as a leather factor about four years in Weston-street, Bermondsey, and Balch was his confidential clerk, and he should be able to show that they were concerned in a very extensive and ingenious system of frauds not only on the prosecutors, but several other leather manufacturers, and his object now was merely to place before his worship evidence as to the system of fraud practised and then call for a remand. Mr. James Barrow said he was in partnership with John Barrow, as tanners and leather merchants, Spinning-row, Bermondsey. He knew the prisoner Williams until March last as a leather factor, in Weston-street, Bermondsey, and had been in the habit of sending him goods for sale from time to time on their account at two and a half per cent. commission. In 1861 Balch was Williams's confidential clerk. In the second week of March last Williams became a bankrupt, and witness was chosen trade assignee. On the 19th of November, witness consigned to Williams 20 English butts, weighing 4 cwt. 26 lbs., to be sold for them. Witness produced the consignment note to Williams to sell the leather at 28s. per lb. or more, if possible, but not less, without their consent, if for more his duty was to account to them for the amount. Witness produced an account of the sale of that leather, in Balch's handwriting, stating that the leather was sold for 1s. 9d. a pound, and until he examined the books produced, he was not aware that he had sold it for 1s. 9d. per lb. In consequence of that, he had defrauded him of £15s. 3d. Mr. Poland said that as the books were now under examination by the accountants, he was not prepared with further evidence, but he understood that the frauds nearly reached the extent of £1,000. He therefore asked for a remand. Both the learned counsel for the accused deferred asking any question, or stating anything for the defence until another examination, but they asked his worship to accept bail for their appearance. Mr. Burcham remanded them for a week, agreeing to accept good and substantial bail in the sum of £300 each, with twenty-four hours' notice to the prosecutors.

WANDSWORTH.

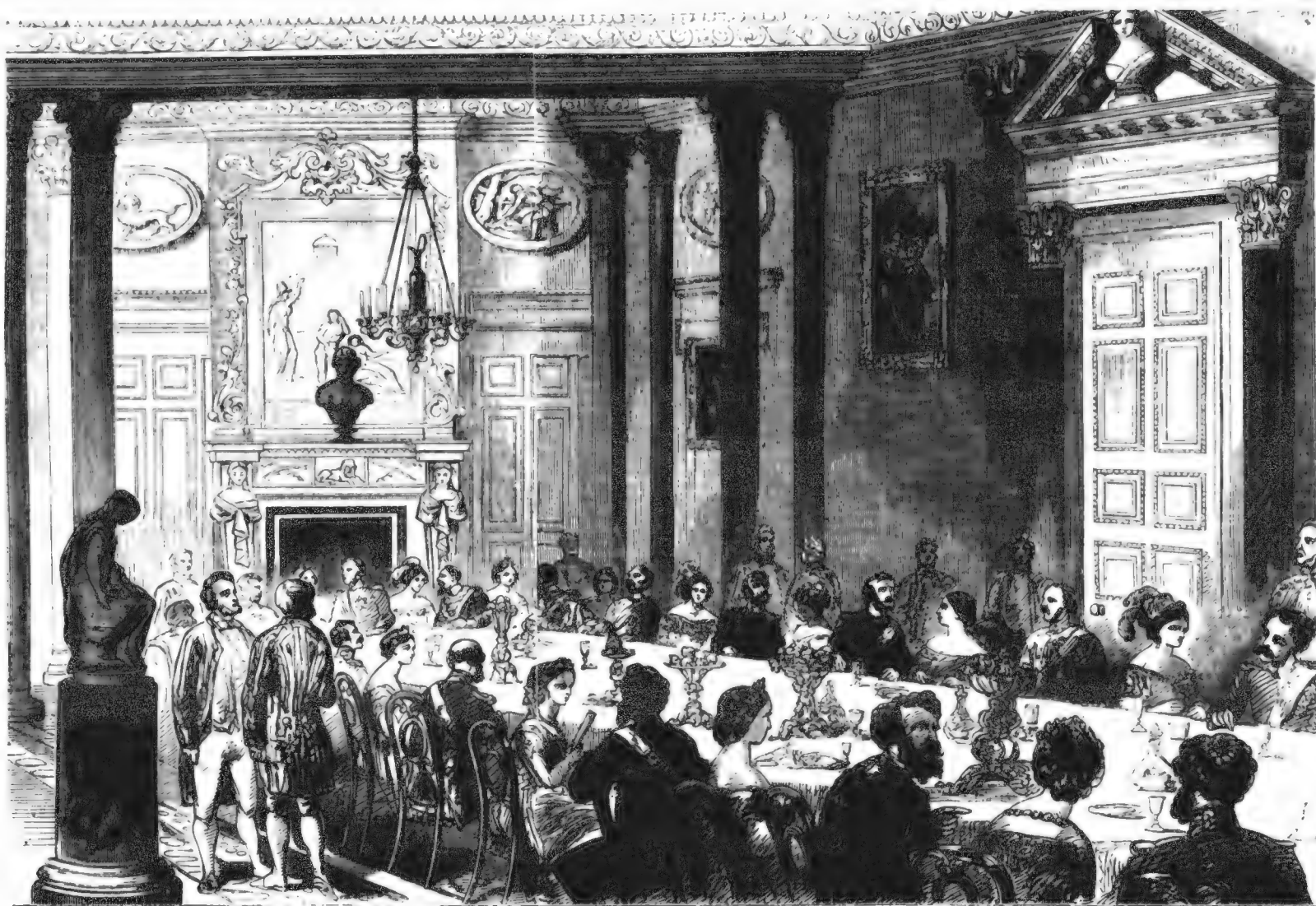
ROBBERY IN AN HOTEL BY A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.—George Smith, a tall, respectable, well-dressed young man, who described himself as a commercial traveller, but who refused to give any account of himself, was placed at the bar before Mr. Burcham for final examination, charged with stealing the "Post Office London Directory" from the coffee-room of the Half Moon Hotel, High-street, Southwark. Mr. Louis Turlan said he was the proprietor of the Half Moon Hotel, and that on Monday morning the prisoner entered the hotel and passed into the coffee-room. He took very little notice of him as he looked like a gentleman. A little while after that he required the "Post Office Directory" at the bar, and he called to one of his porters to fetch it. The latter went into the coffee-room, and returned, saying that he could not find it, and a few minutes afterwards the prisoner was brought to him with the book in his possession, and he gave him into custody. James Hooper, porter to the prosecutor, said that when he went to look for the "Post Office Directory" the prisoner and another gentleman were there. He could not find the book, and went out to tell his master, but a moment after the gentleman called him, and he stopped the prisoner as he was leaving with the book concealed under his coat. He took him to his master, who gave him into custody. Mr. Burcham observed that he remanded him to ascertain if anything was known of him. Police-constable 493 A said he had made inquiries, and he could find nothing about him. The prisoner, crying, said that it was the first time he had ever committed such an offence, and he was very sorry for it. He was driven to commit it through distress. Mr. Burcham told him that at such a time as this inn-keepers must be protected against such depredators. He was well dressed, and from his appearance excited no suspicion, and in consequence was able to enter respectable houses for the purpose of plunder. He sentenced him to six weeks' hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction.

HAMMERSMITH.

CARS AND THE NEW ROAD ACROSS HYDE-PARK.—IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC.—Mrs. Hope Walker, a lady residing at No. 11, Bloomsfield-road, Maida-hill, attended before Mr. Ingham, in pursuance of an adjourned summons, at the instance of Thomas Rees, a cabdriver, for refusing to pay 6d. the remainder of a fare. The case involved a curious point. The complainant drove the lady from her residence and along the new road in Hyde-park to the entrance of the Exhibition, South Kensington. The lady paid 1s. 6d. as the fare, but the cabman claimed 2s. When before the court on the first occasion they both agreed to have the distance measured, and the summons was adjourned for that purpose. All the parties were again in attendance, and Acres, one of the summoning officers of the court, stated that he had measured the ground, and the distance was under three miles. Mr. Ingham said in that case the cabman had been paid his full fare. The complainant drew his worship's attention to the act, and stated that they were bound to abide by the table of fares posted on the boards by the commissioners of police. There was a table of fares outside the Exhibition, and it stated that the distance was over three miles, and the fare 2s. The defendant suggested that the measurement of the commissioners referred to the route by Park-lane. Mr. Ingham was of that opinion, and said it was very embarrassing when new roads were made. He thought it would be best to decide in favour of neither side, and dismiss the summons without costs. The defendant then applied for her expenses, and said she had been twice brought to the court. Mr. Ingham said he could not give costs. Inspector Bocking here entered the court, and he was desired by his worship to go to the Exhibition and ascertain what the table of fares represented. On his return he confirmed the statement of the cabman. Mr. Ingham said both sides were right, and ordered the costs of the summons to be returned to the cabman.

WOOLWICH.

STEALING A WATCH.—John Lawler, a returned convict, was placed at the bar on a charge of stealing a watch from the person of William Pattison, a seaman, residing at 3, Victoria-place, Brimley. From the evidence it appeared that, a few hours after the robbery the prisoner and another man were found in the street fighting, the ground of dispute being the ownership of a watch which the prisoner had in his possession. He was then apprehended by a police-constable, who suspected that the watch was that stolen from the prosecutor, who now identified the property. The prisoner was remanded for a week.



THE BANQUET AT MAY FAIR.

"London Colon."

ITS STREETS.—ITS HOUSES AND ITS PEOPLE.—ITS ODD SCENES AND STRANGE CHARACTERS.—ITS MYSTERIES, MISERIES, AND SPLENDOURS.—ITS SAD MEMORIES AND COMIC PHASES.

BY THE HERMIT OF EXETER CHANGE.

No. 4.—A BANQUET AT MAY FAIR.

LAST week we presented our readers with a sketch of a supper and guests, at the Refuge for the Destitute, Field Lane. There they beheld Lazarus and his brothers and sisters devouring a crust. This week we invite their attention to another supper or banquet in the West-end of the metropolis, at which they may see Dives and his relations and guests, partaking of the choicest wines and viands, which the bounty of Nature, and the art and industry of man have hitherto produced. The scene is the town mansion of Mr. Dives, or more correctly, Jonathan Dives, Esq., M.P., in May-fair. The occasion, the marriage of his only child and heiress, Miss Caroline Amelia Julia Victoria Dives, to the Most Honourable the Marquis of Mortgage, the eldest son of the Duke of Baracres. Mr. Dives is one of the richest men in the kingdom. His origin is purely plebeian. Until within a comparatively recent period, he was in the habit of boasting that he was "a self-made man"—that he was indebted to no long or short line of ancestors for his possessions—that, in point of fact, he had no ancestors of any size or sort—that is, that he knew of. His mother, he was not ashamed to confess—indeed, he then seemed to glory in it—kept a "mangle," out of which she contrived to earn enough to keep herself and her children from the parish. As for his father, Mr. Dives used to say,

"Ah, my father! Well, he is a wise son who knows his own father—I am a wise son, and I don't know mine!"

Having, however, got on in the world, he altered his opinions on this, as well as on a variety of other matters. As long as he was engaged in business, which was that of a builder, he did not feel the disadvantage of having no father or ancestry. But when his fortune was made, and when he married into the poor but proud and ancient family of the Fitzsbornes, he discovered that money—even in this money-worshipping age—is not, in certain circles, considered a sufficient compensation for the want of a properly authenticated parchment pedigree. This knowledge was first imparted to him by his wife, who was a "penniless lass with a long pedigree." No sooner had she secured his hand and fortune, than he found that he must not only furnish himself with a father, but also with a grandfather, a great grandfather, and, in short, with an unbroken line of respectable progenitors up or down, as the reader chooses, to the Norman Conquest at least. Poor Dives was perfectly astounded at this announcement. How was he to furnish himself with forefathers. The thing he declared was

simply absurd, and quite impossible. Mrs. Dives laughed at the simplicity of her spouse. She told him he must be a fool to talk in that manner. In stead of being impossible, nothing was more easy of accomplishment. She then went on to enlighten him as to the ways and means of supplying himself with the requisite kind and quantity of ancestors.

"Money," she said, "properly used can do anything. Now," she continued "you have money, if you had not, I tell you candidly, I would not have you. Use a certain portion of that money in an intelligent manner, and the business is done."

In brief Mr. Dives was instructed to apply at the Herald's College for information about his forefathers, and for proofs of their right to entitle him to associate upon equal terms with the gentry and nobility of his native land. Mr. Dives did as he was told. The herald was both able and willing to oblige. He would not only trace him up step by step to the Norman Conquest, but to Noah's Ark if he wished it.

"Only," said the obliging herald, "I must have a few facts to build upon. Have the goodness then, Mr. Dives, to tell me the name of your father."

Mr. Dives could tell him the name of his father, and that was about all he could do, and even this, little as it was, he did not know of his own knowledge; he had only learnt it from his mother.

When the enquirer came to his grandfather, Mr. Dives was fairly nonplussed. That he had one he took it for granted, but prove it, he could not. He did not even know his name.

"That," said the manufacturer of forefathers, "is an unfortunate circumstance, but by no means an insurmountable difficulty. Pray, Mr. Dives, have you never heard anything about either of your grandfathers?"

Mr. Dives reflected. He did not think he did. Stop, however. Yes—no—yes—he did, but really it was of so slight and frivolous a character, that he was quite sure it was no use mentioning it.

"Pardon me," said the herald, "I am the best judge of that. By all means let us have it."

"But," hesitated the searcher after his progenitors, "what I heard about my grandfather was of such a kind, that I am really ashamed to mention it."

The herald assured him that, inasmuch as he was not responsible for the conduct of his grandfather, there was no valid reason why he should be ashamed of a circumstance which was sought to be elucidated for a purely professional purpose. Fortified with this very philosophical argument, but still with evident reluctance, Mr. Dives thus spoke:—

"Well, then, all I know about my grandfather is, that when I attended the charity school I had a quarrel with a little blackguard of a boy, who learned his letters at the same seminary, and this rascal told me that his mother told him that my grandfather had been hanged for robbing a

hen-roost, but which of them the little scoundrel did not condescend to specify, and I had not the curiosity to ask him."

The herald smiled and rubbed his hands.

"Capital, Mr. Dives. That will do. You need not trouble yourself about any further names or particulars. I can manage the rest. This day week, or it may be earlier, you shall have your pedigree."

"But," remonstrated Mr. Dives, "you surely do not intend to mention the hanging?"

"Most certainly I do," replied the herald.

"What! and the robbing of the hen-roost?" exclaimed the alarmed Dives.

"No, not that," rejoined the other. "Instead of recording that the gentleman was hanged for robbing a hen-roost, we will state that he was hanged for high treason, being out in the '45, doing battle in defence of the right of the legitimate heir to the throne of these realms. Hanging for high treason, you must know, is according to the genealogical standard, the most honourable death an ancestor can die."

We must hasten to the banquet. The pedigree was made out. Mr. Dives and his lady set up a magnificent town establishment. He became a man of fashion and a philanthropist of the first order. He was returned to Parliament for the immaculate borough of Shrimpton. No man was more respected than he. A daughter was born unto him. She grew up, and was, this very day of the feast, married by no less than three clergymen, at St. George's, Hanover Square, to the eldest son and heir of the bankrupt Duke of Baracres. The happy pair having departed for Norman Castle, Blankshire, where they purpose spending the honeymoon, the friends of the families are enjoying themselves in the splendid mansion of the father of the "lovely bride."

The feast is magnificent, as it ought to be, for is not this a proud day for Dives, the son of the poor mangle woman. "All the delicacies of the season are there." The season, be it remarked, is the inclement month of February—just as the Refuge at Field Lane is most crowded by the forlorn and spirit-broken outcasts who devour the 8oz. of dry bread bestowed upon each of them with a celerity which seemed to imply that their lives depended upon quick dispatch being made.

Our West-end banquet is being held in a spacious oak-panelled dining-room, brilliantly lit by a dazzling constellation of wax candles placed in a magnificent candelabra, pendant from the ceiling. The walls were ornamented with several very old-looking portraits of the illustrious ancestors, with which the herald had so liberally supplied the hospitable entertainer. Among these figured the hen-roost depredator in the costume of the time of George the Second, a curled periwig, the large-skirted, wide-cuffed coat, the laced waistcoat, the tight-fitting breeches with the stocking drawn over the knee. There was also the father of Mr. Dives, whom the herald, with a sublime indifference to fact, had described as an "enterprising colonial merchant." This gentle-

man, or his counterfeit presentment, which, like the greater part of the rest of the Dives' family portraits, had been fished out of the dirty recesses of Wardour Street, figured in the quiet bob wig, large cocked hat, top boots, and loose coat of a country squire of the early period of the reign of George the Third. Among the assembled guests were the noblest and richest in all the world, and the fare was worthy of such illustrious feeders. We must particularise a few of the dishes. First, then, there were half a dozen turtle heads, part of fins, and green fat, valued at about forty pounds; two dozen capons, the two small nuts from each side of the back only used, being the most delicate part of every bird; the cost of this dish was estimated at no less than eight guineas. Then there were turkeys, and fatted pullets, and fowls, and grouse, and pheasants, and partridges, plovers, snipes, quails, woodcocks, ortolans, &c., all at enormous and even fabulous prices.

The dessert corresponded with the dinner. Pineapples, and peaches, and grapes, and melons—all, in fact, that could be procured of costly and delicious fruits, was there. And to supply the wines, all the vintages of Europe had been laid under contribution. There were French wines—Romanee, Conti, Chambertin, and Richebourg, from the Cote d'Or, which Mr. Dives took care to inform his guests were "the first and most delicate red wines in the world, full of rich perfume, of exquisite bouquet and fine purple colour;" there also were Lafitte and Latour from the Gironde, less warm than Burgundy, with a taste of the violet, and a rich purple hue; the inimitable Sauterne, the delicious "Epernay Closé," finest of white wines, and the thick, rich Tokay, which the generous host, with considerable latitude of statement, said had been a present from the late Prince Metternich, to mark that illustrious statesman's appreciation of the welcome services rendered by Mr. Dives in promoting the success of the Austrian loan.

But it is needless to descend to further particulars. All that money could procure, was there. All that the most sated and fastidious could desire, had been provided, and Mr. Dives boasted to some of his most intimate friends, that the wedding-feast, alone, had cost him a couple of thousands of pounds, a sum about equal to a two years' revenue of the Refuge of Field-lane, where, during the wintry months of the year, hundreds of Mr. Dives' countrymen and women are nightly lodged, grateful for a roof, a stove, and a crust of dry bread.

WOMEN.—Women are treated by good men as friends, by libertines as playthings, and by cowards as slaves. Women who desert the vindication of their own sex, are like soldiers who forsake their own cause on the field of battle, and standing between two armies, are exposed to the fire of both. Beauty and spirit are women's weapons of defence; without them they have nothing to shield them from being ill-treated.



UNDER THE PORCH.

Literature.

ORIGINAL TALES.
UNDER THE PORCH.
PART I.

THE City omnibus was rushing down the Clapham-road on a fine spring morning, and a portly gentleman—old Brown, in fact, of the firm of "Brown, Jones, and Robinson—sleek and rosy, and clad in glossy black, was just stepping out of his handsome villa, "Sugar-loaf Villa," if any of my readers know it, and just about to step jauntily into the road, when, round the corner—Brown's villa formed the corner of a leafy road leading Brixton ways—just at that moment he came full butt upon his remorseless enemy Mr. Bore.

Mr. Bore is at once a talker and a tyrant. He knows the fact, and takes no little pride in his iniquity.

Seizing old Brown by the hand, and shaking it pump-handle fashion, he cries out—

"Ah, Brown, my boy! Is it you? Delighted to see you—"

"Thank you, Bore—thank you; hope you're very well."

"Quite well, I assure you," quoth Mr. Bore, radiant, while the conductor impatiently calls out—

"Now, sir, if you please—'bus is waitin'."

"You hear—good morning," began Brown, struggling to be free; but he was in the grasp of one who knew better than to let a captured prize off so easily.

"All right!" said Mr. Bore; "he's not off yet—he's waiting for Capel, the stock-broker. By-the-by,"—and here he put in, as from a sudden recollection, a look of the most serious intensity—

"by-the-by, have you heard the news?"

"The news!" stammered Brown, changing colour. "The news! Good gracious me, no! What is it?"

All business men, all City men, I should perhaps say, for the reader's information, are always fearful, doubting, hoping. They have many anxieties, so much at stake, success or total ruin before them within the circle of the four and twenty hours, that it is scarcely to be wondered at, if old Brown, a little plethoric, and a little "fussy," was thrown off his balance for a moment.

"The news! Good gracious, no! Tell it me." The conductor, who had received his stock-broker, and whose time was up, could wait no longer. He banged his door, shouted, "Rite," and the bus drove off.

"You know old Smith, don't you?" said Bore.

The question was not a little aggravating, when it is known that Brown had known old Smith for years; had lived in the villa next to his, in the prettiest part of Brixton; that his son, Jack Brown, and pretty Nelly Smith, of about the same age, had been playmates from children; that they had been sweethearts, and finally that an engagement on behalf of the children had been entered into between the two fathers—broken rudely off by some cruel reverses which had occurred to old Smith; and, in fact, for a dozen reasons more, the question was an aggravating one.

"Yes, sir," returned old Brown, growing very red, and very flustered. "Yes, sir, I know old Smith, and you, sir, know I know him."

"Ah—" drawled Bore; "but you see I thought you had forgot him."

"Never mind, sir—never mind, whether I have or not!" burst out Brown; "and, sir, you have lost me the 'bus—"

"But you won't have lost your news," pleaded Bore, with a wicked wink.

"News! news! Confound—but what can the news be?"

"Does old Smith owe you any money?" Bore spoke these words in a conspirator's whisper, putting his hands to his lips, lifting himself up on his toes, and speaking in the ear of the other.

Old Brown at the question might have been seized with apoplexy, but he wasn't. He opened his eyes very wide; his very gills turned white, and he gasped out faintly—

"Owe me any money! Good gracious! I believe you! Six hundred—a cool six hundred! Good gracious! But what, for heaven's sake, have you to say about him?"

"Then, you haven't heard the news?" "Gracious heaven! This man would—my dear Mr. Bore—"

"Old Smith owes you six hundred pounds—" "Sixteen and eightpence with interest," added Brown; "but what of that?"

"Oh—nothing—only—"

"Well—well—only—what?"

"Only—he can pay you that's all," and Mr. Bore, with a merry laugh, turned away, adding, "good morning, I won't detain you now."

"Won't detain me now, and the omnibus gone, and not one for another hour. What a man it is!" muttered Brown to himself; then adding aloud, "Mr. Bore! Bore, my dear boy, pray why the deuce don't you look in, and take a glass of wine with me; Mrs. Brown would be glad to see Mrs. Bore, you know; but come, like a good fellow, what is this news you give so much emphasis to?" and Brown smiled like the very tempter himself.

"Why, little Nelly Smith; but haven't you really heard of it?" said Bore.

"No, no!" cried Brown, despairingly. "What is it?"

"She has come into her fortune."

"Her fortune!"

"Ten thousand pounds—ten—thou—sand—pounds, sir! I give you my word upon it."

By his pompous pronunciation of the words, the sum might have been ten hundred thousand, ten millions, even. He paused to watch the effect.

Mr. Brown staggered back this time. The announcement had hit him in the wind, so to speak, and had taken his breath away. He took out his pocket-handkerchief, exhaled a long breath, and wiped his brow.

"Ten thou—. Oh, my gracious me!" "I thought you'd be glad to know it," said Bore, radiantly. "It's lucky, ain't it? I suppose your son Jack will soon be home, now. I heard of the old engagement long ago. Ah! I see you are overcome with emotion, so I'll wish you joy, and bid you good morning;" and this time, Mr. Bore, shaking Brown by the hand, disappeared round the corner, leaving Mr. Brown the image of perplexity and despair, and standing, a very unpicturesque object, by the kerbstone.

PART II.

THE reader will be curious to learn the reason of Mr. Brown's embarrassment, and why, in particular, he dropped his jaw so wide, after Bore had poured this broadside of "news" into him. Here it is, therefore—in little.

Mr. Bore was quite right about the old friendly association between the two families, and the truth—that Jack Brown, the hope and heir of the Brown's, was engaged to pretty Nelly Smith—was also beyond contradiction.

All at once this was broken off, and while old Smith still remained in his modest villa-cottage at Brixton, with the sweetest garden in the world, and such a porch leading to it—while Brown removed, and took his showy, gaudy villa at

Clapham, and had a brass knocker, and brass bell-handles, and brass-bound blinds, and altogether a brazen look—the two men when they met never spoke now.

By certain reverses in business, which happened in the "best regulated" City houses, old Smith had fallen on evil days and come to "grief," a fact that was not to be tolerated by the head of the thriving house of Brown, Jones, and Robinson for a moment. It was not to be supposed that Mr. Brown was going to waste his son and a fortune by uniting him to a penniless girl; and so the connexion was abruptly severed. Jack Brown was sent away to manage the branch of the business at the Cape of Good Hope, and Nelly Smith was left to wipe her tears away (if she shed any) without much consideration on the part of the Browns, pater and materfamilias, towards the artful and designing "minx" (Mrs. Brown's own words), as Nelly Smith was designated.

And Nelly was as modest, blushing, and beautiful a specimen of the thorough English girl as you would meet with from Belgravia to Bow Bells, or within any larger amount of latitude the reader chooses to claim.

But a fortune of ten thousand pounds was, in Mr. Brown's esteem, a very different thing from an elegant, accomplished, virtuous girl, without a penny to buy a pin withal.

How Mr. Brown, burdened with his many conflicting thoughts, got to his office in the City that morning, may be much better imagined than described.

Now there happened to be engaged in the house, a handsome, honest-hearted fellow, one Harry Vane, a nephew to old Smith, but upon whom, because the sister had made a match much below her station, he (old Smith) had always looked coldly—so coldly and distantly, in fact, that the young man, who was both accomplished and a gentleman, resented this, and no intercourse for a long time past had taken place between him and his uncle—or his uncle's family, that is to say, so far as the reader at present knows.

So you see, after all, if you blame Mr. Brown for being a bit "stuck up," old Mr. Smith was not without his failings—and the orphan son of his sister lost much of that love, which an uncle—as a rule—is not slow in showing towards a nephew.

He (old Smith) had been the means of getting Henry Vane the good post he held in the establishment of the renowned firm; and having done that, and "provided" for his nephew, thought himself well rid of the young man; and that, at all events, the handsome lad should not interfere with his visions of an alliance between his sweet Nelly and Jack Brown, the son of a man so rich, and for that reason, so revered, especially at Clapham.

And all was over. Alas! the dream was ended—disappointment and the gloom of poverty staring him in the face.

But, dear me! Who does not know how very "green" these wise and foggy-like old fathers are, and how they over-do, or under-do everything; and even we who have been young, and have now grown—well, matured—have not always recollected that we used once to follow our nose?

There had come much sorrow to the hearth of Old Smith who, in the main—and in especial being the father of such a charming girl as Nelly Smith—was a kindly, generously-disposed man.

There had come to old Brown's hearth no accession of happiness, although his wealth was growing into the share of a promising half "plum." He missed his kindly old companion who owed him "six hundred pounds," he missed his son, he missed Nelly's face as it used to laugh at him through the lilac hedge which separated their gardens.

And now Nelly was worth ten thousand pounds!

The merchant, sitting in his private room, lifting up his eyes, and looking through the glass partitions, saw Harry Vane busily-engaged at his work over the desk, and broke out into some such sort of soliloquy as the following:—

"He's a handsome fellow—this Harry Vane is—conf—a year or two older than Jack; Jack isn't handsome, and his hair can't be said to be brown—slightly auburn." Here Mr. Brown rung his bell, and in a moment or two Harry Vane attended his summons.

"Henry—ah—Mr. Vane—do you see or hear anything of your uncle occasionally, now?"

The young man looked surprised at the unexpected question.

"No, sir. I never see him, and only hear of him about twice a week."

"Oh, you hear of him, eh—do you?"

"Yes, sir; I sometimes meet my cousin Nelly at the house of a mutual friend," answered Vane. "What, sir! You meet your cousin clandestinely, then?"

"Sir, I don't know," said the young man, a little haughtily, "by what right you question me on this matter."

"Sir, as your employer; and—yes, sir—as a friend of the family; and, sir, as the friend of the man who placed you here."

"This is new to me, sir; but, as I refuse to be questioned, and if, for that reason, my services are to be dispensed with, I have an opportunity to turn them to other uses."

"To other uses?"

"Yes, in the North of England, having some knowledge of surveying, I have an engagement offered me."

"Good-day, sir, our cashier will pay you the salary due."

And so they parted.

That same evening a Cape mail sailing, carried with it a letter summoning Jack Brown instantly home, as Nelly Smith was pining at his absence, and ready to swoon in his arms at the moment of his arrival.

PART III.

MANY months passed away, and the later summer approaching the brown and ripened autumn, with its cooling, yet delicious airs, its languid grace, and its glorious fruitfulness which always makes greater and grater the heart of man, had fallen upon the land, and the still humble, yet happy little villa at Brixton, lay wrapped up in its rosery, and its greenery and beauty, and the garden porch—a leafy way leading from a compact glass-house—a "glass case" if you like—to the garden itself—a model of moss and ivy, breathing odours—was an object that more than one wayfarer lingered to take another look at ere he passed on.

The most graceful, and dreamy object—who with her birds and flowers had a constant association with the more winning features of Nature—belonging to this villa, was Nelly Smith herself who, if she was not happy in the possession of a lover, and of ten thousand pounds, I don't know who should.

Did I say a lover? I am afraid that I am anticipating, so must back a little.

It was not long before old Smith had sent a cheque upon his banker, for the six hundred pounds owing to old Brown, with a curt, though not discourteous note acknowledging the obligation, and, with a sort of "farewell," discharging debt and obligation at once and for ever.

This was not quite to old Brown's fancy. He admitted to himself that he had made a mistake

—that old Smith had been unfortunate, that the best man in the world might be unlucky, and that at any hour Dives might change places with Lazarus, and so on, but he had no intention of letting old Smith off in that manner.

Because, in fine, he had worked himself into a belief that Nelly Smith was a perfect gem of a charming little woman. Nelly wasn't a maypole, believe me; that Jack dearly loved her (very likely the honest fellow did, only the father had sternly crushed the delicious feeling) old Brown was well assured, and now, as the head of the City firm contended within himself, it only required Jack's return to make Nelly's felicity complete, and to realise the happiest marriage in the world.

Old Smith made his appearance on "Change" once more with a pretence of business, and his old cronies received him as before, and one day he and old Brown—grown ruddier, more portly, and more amply waistcoated than ever—met face to face.

Something in the quiet, saddened air of his old friend and neighbour smote him.

"Why, Smith, bless my soul! what an age it is since we met! I am so glad to see you," and he seized the other's hand, and shook it with a most redundant show of feeling. "Congratulations on the good news I hear: your brother disappointed a good many people's first impression of him."

"I think," says old Smith, mildly, "you did not prophesy much good of him."

"Hem—no—perhaps not. You see the best of us are mistaken, at times. I have news for you. By-the-by, they may be glad to hear it at 'Lilac Lodge' (old Smith's cottage), and that by-gones will be by-gones."

"I think we shall be glad to hear good news of anyone we have known," replied old Smith, mildly; "and I hope, also, that by-gones are by-gones, as you say, for I have no desire to remember anything that might hurt my own feelings, or those of anyone else."

"That's well spoken," again cried old Brown, and seizing him by the hand afresh, "well spoken. Tell Nelly, bless her—give her my kind love and remembrance—that Jack is on his voyage home. You recollect the old engagement, eh—don't you?" and Brown poked Smith playfully in the ribs.

"I thought it was you who had forgotten it," returned the other, in his reproachfully quiet way.

"I! Me!"

Mr. Brown looked perfectly aghast at the possibility.

"There is a very curious note at home that would seem to say so; but never heed that. If you choose to call at the old cottage when Jack comes home, you shall be welcome."

"Thank you, Smith—thank you! Just like you—God bless you!—burst out Brown, in perfect torrent of grateful ecstasy. "I'll be sure to recollect your invitation—your invitation, mind; for as such I look upon it."

"If you like to think so, I have no objection."

And so they parted.

PART IV.

ONE July noon under the shady leafage of the enormous garden-porch sat four people, happy, tranquil, reading—reading, what? you ask me. Why, upon my word, reading the ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS, just as you are this very moment, my dear reader, who are carefully following every line of this very charming story.

The charm has yet to come.

Nelly Smith looked as radiant as ever, with her shaded brown hair, on which the softened glinting sunlight fell, as she held the paper in her hand; her father calm and placid opposite; the venerable grey-haired mother, too, close at hand; but who was it that sat beside Nelly, and had his audacious arm round her waist?

Round her waist! But what is that round the fourth finger of her left hand?

Why, as I live, a wedding-ring!

And Jack Brown coming home from across the wide seas to marry the little woman who is already married—and to whom do you think?

That good-looking fellow, who looks up so longingly into her face—is good gracious—Harry Vane!

Oh, you sly puss! Oh, you false—

But there comes a violent razing at the bell, and next instant, enter Phoebe, introducing two gentlemen.

"Here's Jack!" shouts out old Brown, shoving Jack forward, who rushes towards Nelly.

"How are you, Jack, old fellow," says Harry Vane, with tremendous solemnity. "Allow me to introduce you to Mrs. Harry Vane."

A moment's revulsion, followed by the best good wishes on honest Jack's part—a pleasant afternoon—the two old boys cracking their bottle together; and "Under the Park" they continue to sit till sundown, and to set, let us hope, many another a good example of mutual forgiveness, and the revival of old or broken friendship.

CARVING.—In 1711, Grindling Gibbons was appointed Master-Carver in Wood to George the First, with a salary of eighteen pence per day; he enjoyed that moderate bounty for seven years, and died at his own house, in Bow-street, Covent-garden, August 3, 1721.

"TICKETS, SIR!"—A good story is related of a conductor on a railroad, who was a strict church-going man, and was always found promptly in his church on the Sabbath. One Saturday evening his train was in very late, and he did not take his customary amount of sleep, which, however, did not prevent his attending Divine service as usual. During the sermon he unwittingly fell into a troubled sleep, soothed by the monotonous voice of the clergyman. All at once he sprang from his seat, thrust his hat under his arm, and giving the neighbour in front a push, shouted, "Ticket, sir!" The startled neighbour also sprang to his feet, which thoroughly aroused the conductor, who, looking wildly around, seeing all eyes turned towards him, instantly comprehended his position, and "slid," amid a suppressed titter, from the whole congregation.

Reviews of Books

NEW MUSIC.

MESSRS. CLARKE AND CO.'S (HOLBORN-BARS) NEW WORKS.

The Life Guard's Polka. By C. C. Amos.

The Sea-side Polka. By W. Vincent.

The first of these polkas is a very spirited composition, and will become popular with large bands; while the latter is exceedingly charming, flowing, graceful, and pretty, and a welcome addition to drawing-room music.

The Hope Beyond the Grave.

The Bow in the Cloud.

In Thee, O Lord, we put our trust.

Three impressive pieces, the words by J. E. Carpenter, and the music by Stephen Glover.

The compositions of this latter gentleman are well known, and the above fully maintain his reputation. The music harmonises admirably to the beautiful words. The whole of the above are splendidly illustrated and illuminated.

MESSRS. DUFF AND HODGSON'S NEW WORKS.

I could never be Happy alone, words by J. E. Carpenter, music by Stephen Glover, is a very pretty companion to "A young Lady's No."

The friends of Old.—Words by J. Duff, music by J. W. Hobbs. A fine ballad. Both words and music must please all who hear them.

The Happy Village Rose, and Kathleen and the Soldiers. These form Nos. 1 and 2 of "Characteristic National Songs." Words by J. E. Carpenter, music by Stephen Glover.

My Jamie is a Fisherman, and Winnie Wren, are Nos. 3 and 4 of the same collection. The words of the former are by J. Duff, and the music by A. Campbell, and the latter by J. E. Carpenter, and the music by Morgan Jones. Each of the above is beautifully illustrated, and particularly characteristic, both words and music, of Albion, Hibernia, Caledonia, and Cambria.

The Steel-Clad Ships of England is a welcome national song, and will become popular. Music by W. Winn, words by John Duff, with a fine engraving.

Varieties.

FROGS.—A single frog spawns about 1,300 eggs; were it not for their numerous enemies, and their not being fit to propagate till they are three years old, the country would be overrun with these reptiles.

FECONDITY OF INSECTS AND FISHES.—A single plant-louse may be the living progenitor of 5,904,900,000 descendants, and the queen of the warrior white ants produces 31,536,000 eggs in one year. Compared with the rest of animated nature, infusion animalcula are the most numerous; next are worms, insects, or fishes; amphibia and reptiles, birds, quadrupeds; and last is man. How prodigious is the difference between fishes, amphibia reptiles, insects, and worms. A scorpion will produce 65 young; a common fly will lay 144 eggs; a leech 150; and a spider 170. A female moth will produce 1,100. A gall insect has laid 5,000 eggs; a shrimp 6,000; and 10,000 have been found in an ascarides. Twelve thousand eggs have been found in a lobster, and in another above 21,000. An insect very like an ant, has produced 80,000 in a single day; and Leuwenhoeck computes four millions in a crab. Above 36,000 eggs have been counted in a herring; 38,000 in a snail; 1,000,000 in a sole; 1,180,000 in a roach; 3,000,000 in a species of sturgeon; 342,000 in a carp; 383,000 in a tench; 516,000 in a mackerel; 992,000 in a perch; and 1,357,000 in a flounder. The cod, however, has been computed to produce more than 3,686,000 eggs; another 9,000,000; and a third 9,444,000. Here, then, are eleven fishes, which probably, in the course of one season, will produce above thirty millions of eggs!

EARTHQUAKES.—Upon the incontestable statements of two distinguished observers of insects, Frisch and De Geer, the female of the common earwig sits upon her eggs. This circumstance, however, seems to have escaped the notice of other naturalists, though her attention to her young ones is often witnessed.

A GENTLEMAN who had a snuff-box that played "Drops of Brandy," and "The glasses sparkling on the board," went to dine with a friend a few miles out of town one Sunday, taking his box in his pocket. He accompanied the family to church, and by some accidental pressure, he, about the middle of the sermon, touched the spring of the box, which struck up "Drops of Brandy." Every eye and ear was directed to the spot, to the great dismay of the gentleman, who endeavoured to stop the box, but in doing so, only caused it to change the tune, on which he fastened out of church, the box rattling away as he hurried along the aisle.

PRIDE AND SKIRTS.—Little Alice A., dressed and prepared for a walk, was skipping back and forth through the entry, waiting for her mother to get ready to go out. Her little cousin said he was going out too. "No," said Alice, "you can't go—you are not dressed up." Her uncle laughingly remarked, "That the pride stuck out quite early."

"No," answered Alice, "it isn't my pride, it's my new moreen skirt that sticks out so."

WHAT IS A NAME?—"What's in a name?" A good deal, especially if it is a bad one. Eugene Sue, in his "Mysteries of Paris," happened to choose a very respectable street as the scene of some of the worst and most revolting of all crimes which abound in that book. The effect was prodigious. Rents fell; some of the best families moved to other streets; and great was the grief of all the *habitués* that, for no fault of their own, their neighbourhood was regarded as little better than infamous. At last, it occurred to some clever fellow to have the name of the street changed. It was done; and, presto, all was right again! The novelist was conquered, and the good people were as respectable and jolly as ever.

Wit and Wisdom.

A HANDCUFF.—A box on the ear.

A SPONGING HOUSE.—The Turkish baths.

HESSIAN BOOTS.—A "boots" located at Hesse.

WHEN (or) T is removed, night becomes nigh.

QUEER KIND OF LOVE.—A neuralgic affection.

CAN a man be said to be in a stew when you make his blood boil?

THE WORST KIND OF HANGING.—Hanging about a public-house.

TO CLERKS AND OTHERS.—Horticulture for Christmas—get your salary raised.

It too often happens that being above the reach of want, just places us within the reach of avarice.

DRESS plainly: the thinnest soap-bubbles wear the gaudiest colours.

THE certain way to be cheated is to fancy one's self more cunning than others.

TREAT your family kindly, but put your cattle nightly to the rack.

WHAT joint of meat is most appropriate for an emptyarder?—A fillet (fill it).

"LET me collect myself," as the man said when he was blown up by a powder-mill.

Why does an enterprise, about to be started, resemble six inches—Because it is partly a-foot.

THE boy who undertook to ride a horse-radish is now practising on a saddle of mutton.

Why is a lady like the extra stamp on a "late letter?"—Because one is a female, the other a mail fee.

NATURE preaches cheerfulness in her saddest moods; she covers even forgotten graves with flowers.

THERE is in the heart of woman such a deep well of love that no age can freeze it.

WHEN may a chair be said to dislike you?—When it can't bear you.

THE school girl who "fell into a reverie" has been pronounced out of danger by her physician.

A LADIES' shoemaker advertises himself as one of the luminaries of the "Sole her System."

THE physically blind thanks you for your guidance: the mentally blind usually rejects it with indignation.

If jealousy is, as they say, the child of love, the father must strangle the child, or the child will grow up and strangle the father.

KISSING.

SWEET Minnie May and I one eye

Across the meadow strayed,

Then wandered down the little lane

To where the streamlet played,

We paused beneath a linden's shade,

Within a flowery dell—

I asked a kiss, she sighing said,

"Yes! if you'll never tell."

Ah! do you think, sweet Minnie May,

That I could traitor be?

One kiss and I will pledge for aye

My secrecy to thee.

Her fringed lids veiled modesty

The mirrors of her soul.

To neck and brow all suddenly

The tell-tale blushes stole.

Her round white arms my neck entwined—

Ah! then the height of bliss—

Her rosy lips were pressed to mine

In one sweet lingering kiss;

"Eye st' weep 'ts—e," it sounded thro' the lane,

"Twice waited by the breeze,

Until repeated o'er again

By echo 'midst the trees.

NOTE.—The "Knickerbocker Magazine" says—

"When two pairs of affectionate lips are placed together to the intent of osculation, the sound uttered is something like the ensuing:

Eye st' weep 'ts—ee.

And then the sound tapers off so softly, and so musically, that no letters can do it justice.

MRS. PARTINGTON makes Shakespeare say, "sweet are the uses of advertisement." It is so—if Shakespeare didn't say it.

WHAT relation is that child to its father who is not his own father's son?—His daughter.

THE more a woman's waist is shaped like an hour-glass, the more it shows us that her sands of life are running out.

FRENCH IMPERIAL PINT.—To keep up friendly relations with Great Britain.

LOW REMARK.—"Deceit, sir," said the cynic Jones—"deceit is like coral, and is ever to be found in the deeps."

FLAG-RANT CONSUMPTION.—William (log): "Jack, why is a marriage like our national flag?"

"Don't know." "Why, because it's a union, Jack!"

A POETRY fancier lately procured a picture of a favourite hen, which was so natural that it laid on the table for several weeks.

Why is a suitor in the county court sure to get a present of jewellery for his wife?—Because the judge is obliged to give him a hearing (ear-ring).

MANY people's lives are not worth the market value of the iron in their blood and the phosphorus in their bones.

PLEASURE is only a change of pain. A man who has had the gout feels first-rate when he gets down to only rheumatism.

THE cheerful are the busy: when trouble knocks at your door or rings the bell, he will generally retire if you send him word, "engaged."

NATURALISTS tell us that "wild boars" are becoming extinct in the land. What a capital thing if "tame bores" were to follow the example.

A PUBLIC writer thinks that much might be gained if speakers would observe the miller's creed—always to shut the gate when the grist is out.

If you be nettled with severe railery, take care never to show that you are stung, unless you choose to provoke more. The way to avoid being made a butt, is not to be set up for an archer.

"I was quite off my guard when it was stolen," said a person who had been robbed of his gold chain whilst musing. "You could not be otherwise when they took the guard off you," said his friend.

NED SHUTTER thus explained his reason for preferring to wear stockings with holes to having them darned. "A hole," said he, "may be the accident of a day, and will pass upon the best gentleman—but a darn is a remediated poverty."

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NOTICE.—During the Easter holidays an Extra Morning Representation will be given every Tuesday, at Three o'clock.

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